

**Lydia Chalmer's Thesis**

**On**

**William the Bloody**

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This thesis is based, in its entirety, in the universe of the television show Buffy the Vampire Slayer. Its creators, Joss Whedon and ME, own all rights to the universe, the characters, the plots, and everything else, and we are grateful to them for creating the Buffyverse and allowing us to play in it. No monetary or other gain will accrue to any of those involved in the production of this thesis, except the pleasure of thinking about an exceptional series, and of doing our best to show our respect for it in this work of fan fiction.

This thesis is based on Lydia the Watcher's line in the episode "Checkpoint" (Buffy season 5). On first meeting Spike she says in awe, "I wrote my thesis on you!"

We submit this collaborative effort as the thesis Lydia wrote. We have given her the last name Chalmers. Since we imagine this thesis to have been completed in May of 1998, any information about Spike or Sunnydale which has appeared since then will not have been available to her.

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WILLIAM THE BLOODY

by

Lydia Chalmers

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**Watcher's Academy, London**  
**Abstract**

**William the Bloody**

by Lydia Chalmers

**Chair of the Supervisory Committee:** Mr. Quentin Travers  
Council of Watchers

This thesis summarizes the available data on the career of William the Bloody, a vampire of the Line of Aurelius, drawing what conclusions are possible on his origins, abilities, habits, and expected behaviours.

A summary of confirmed information is given briefly in chapter 1. This is data confirmed by eye-witnesses of known trustworthiness (usually Watchers). I will depend on this information as certain, but will build the argument of the thesis also on information less reliably confirmed but which seems to me on various grounds to be credible. Speculative data will be so noted.

Chapter 2 will give an overview of William the Bloody's clan, the Line of Aurelius, as background to his own history. Chapter 3 gives an alternate theory on the nature of vampirism, on which I will base many of my later conclusions on the nature of William the bloody. In chapter 4 I include an account the debate over the identity of William the Bloody's sire, and the date of his siring. Chapter 4 also gives a summary of his appearances over the years, and the habitats he prefers.

Chapters 5 through 9 give a behavioural account of his known (and deduced) habits, divided into the following categories: feeding habits, preferred victims, sexual idiosyncracies, preferences in torture, and other known idiosyncracies. Chapter 10, an admittedly speculative chapter, gives an account of what we can attempt to deduce about his pre-death biography.

Chapter 11 gives a summary of his strengths and weaknesses in convenient format, for the use of Watchers and Slayers who may encounter William the Bloody in the field. Chapter 12 gives provisional conclusions on the history and character of William the Bloody, and includes a reappraisal of the nature of vampires in general.

I have included appendices giving an index of confirmed victims, and a set of confirmed images of William the Bloody.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This work would not have been possible without the support and encouragement of my colleague and friend, Dr. Rudolf Fliesning, under whose supervision I chose this topic and began the thesis. Mr. Quentin Travers, my advisor in the final stages of the work, has also been abundantly helpful, and has assisted me in numerous ways, including summarizing the contents of documents which were not available for me to examine, and in particular for allowing me to read as soon as they were available date copies of recent extracts from the field diaries of Watcher Rupert Giles and the current Slayer Miss Buffy Summers, who encountered William the Bloody in 1998, and for arranging full access to journals of earlier Watchers relevant to the career of William the Bloody.

I would also like to thank the Council for the award of the Wyndham-Price Fellowship, which has supported me during my two years of research, and for the award of two travel grants, one to study documents in the sealed Watcher Archives in Munich, and one for field research in Prague. I would like to thank Mr. Travers, again, for facilitating my security clearance for the work in the Munich Archives, and Dr. Fliesning for his collegial support and assistance on both research trips.

I cannot end without thanking my family, on whose constant encouragement and love I have relied throughout my time at the Academy. I am grateful also to the examples of my late brother, Desmond Chalmers, Watcher in Training, and my father, Albert Chalmers, Watcher. Their unflinching courage and conviction will always inspire me, and I hope to continue, in my own small way, the noble mission to which they gave their lives. It is to them that I dedicate this work.

## INTRODUCTION

### Why Study William the Bloody?

#### The Line of Aurelius

The Line of Aurelius has been much studied in the last century. As one of the most virulently powerful demonic lines, it has nine times been associated with apocalyptic attempts, eight of them in a leadership role. The entire clan has been responsible for many of the most flagrant scenes of vampiric cruelty, torture, mayhem, carnage and devastation recorded in the last five hundred years. Most vampires and vampire clans avoid the limelight; the Line of Aurelius seems rather to court it, to flaunt their activities under the eyes, if not on the very doorsteps, of the institutions, secular, religious and Watcher, that attempt to control them. To name only a few, in the Marseilles Convent Massacre of 1723, the Dresden Slaughter in 1824, and the destruction of the entire Singapore Watcher chapter in 1843, in which several members of the clan were observed in full vampire mode, coldly stalking and killing the terrified clerical staff before moving on to the Watchers themselves - in all of these the clan apparently deliberately left survivors who could identify them to police and Watchers. It was as if they wanted their authorship of the carnage to be known and recorded for posterity.

I will summarize what is known of the Line of Aurelius in chapter 2. Briefly, by the time of the siring of William the Bloody, its most visible members were Darla and her line. Darla was sired by the Master sometime before 1622, and traveled with her descendant Angelus, sired in Ireland in 1753 and responsible for the slaughter of his entire village as well as every member of his extended birth-family before he and his sire moved on to England, Yorkshire, and the continent, leaving a trail of devastation in their wake. Angelus in turn sired Drusilla, after murdering her entire family and driving her insane. There are indications in the records that Drusilla was possessed of precognitive abilities which she retained when turned, in relatively inaccessible form, given her mental state, which has from all accounts never recovered from the damage inflicted by Angelus before he turned her.

It is unclear which of these sired William the Bloody, or even when. I will give the arguments for each sire and the probable dates given William's turning in chapter 3, and state my own hypothesis there. What is clear is that the addition of William to the clan made it if anything even more visible to Watchers and secular authorities. William was never one to avoid publicity, though paradoxically not one to seek it; but he seems not to have cared who knew where he was or what he did, as long as they did not interfere with his activities.

The group of Darla, Angelus, Drusilla and William, which traveled together for at least twenty years at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, has often been described as a "family" in Watcher chronicles. This term is loosely applicable to their interpersonal dynamics, and I will use it in this thesis, but in many ways the word "gang" describes their linkage more closely. They possessed many of the characteristics of sociopathology: loyal to each

other, vicious to outsiders. Whatever rules of interaction they acknowledged among themselves did not apply to strangers, even strange vampires, let alone, of course, their prey.

Given the relatively short lifespan of most vampire groupings, Darla's 'family' possessed a surprising degree of loyalty to each other. Most vampire groups break up in five years or less (usually much less) in internal revolt and assassination. In fact this characteristic of vampire groups explains not only the short lifespan of most vampires (far more of whom are killed by each other than by Slayers or other warriors for the light) but also the relative ineffectiveness of those vampires who choose to attempt world domination or apocalypse-induction. Such activities depend on planning, co-operation, and obedience to the authority of senior vampires over a considerable period of time, none of which characteristics are generally descriptive of the vampire psychology. Darla's 'family' does not seem to have been entirely harmonious, but by vampire standards, it was a comparative paragon of domestic felicity.

It is their ability to co-operate with each other that has made the Line of Aurelius dangerous over the centuries, and has caused it to figure so prominently in the carnage and attempts at the apocalypse to which I alluded previously. Consequently, it has drawn the attention of chroniclers, and has figured largely in the scholarship available on the entire vampire species. While I suspect that this is in some respects a mistake - for we should not take the obviously unusual Line of Aurelius as paradigmatic for the entire breed - their significance, and the importance of learning how to control and ultimately overcome this Line, is obviously immense. The easiest approach to this subject is through close examination of the individual members of the family.

### **William the Bloody**

While a great deal has already been published on Darla and Angelus, and to a lesser extent on Drusilla, William the Bloody, the youngest member of the clan, has received comparatively little attention in critical scholarship on the Line of Aurelius. I believe that he has been overlooked in error. If we examine what is known of William, it becomes apparent that his flamboyant lifestyle and apparent lack of interest in world domination or destruction cannot be attributed to frivolity or stupidity. That he has survived this long, without the assistance and in some cases despite the best efforts of his clan members, is a tribute to his intelligence, courage, and cool-wittedness in a crisis. His lack of involvement in all but one of the Line of Aurelius' apocalyptic attempts can be attributed, rather, partly to youth, and partly to an apparent lack of interest in power, which we cannot be sure will continue. It surely behooves us to know as much as we can about a vampire whose power, while he lives, will only increase, and whose lack of interest in world destruction may well vanish over time.

Moreover, study of William the Bloody's career will enlighten us further on the singular nature of the Line of Aurelius and the attributes of the vampire species generally, as only the older members of the breed can. Most vampires die too quickly for us to study them. William the Bloody's survival can teach us a great deal.



### *Status Quaestionis*

Much useful research has been conducted into individual members of the Line of Aurelius. Of the available bibliography I would single out for special mention Christine Bluhansen's "Darla: Duchess of Doom" (Morbid Press, Antwerp 1902) which despite its popularizing title is a carefully-researched and exhaustively documented account of Darla's career, with extensive bibliography. Another member of the clan who has attracted extensive attention is Angelus, on whom see especially Clemence de Sevigne's "Angel/us Un/Souled: Monster, Man, Metaphor" (Postmodern Pansy Press, NY 1984), which, while flawed by its unfortunate reliance on deconstructive criticism and now-discredited theories of the decentred multiplicity of personal identity, contains a thorough and carefully referenced account of Angel/us' career, contacts, and massacres, with a useful annotated bibliography and appendix of sightings and known victims. My appendix uses Dr. de Sevigne's as a model.

Little work exists so far on either the Line of Aurelius as a whole, to which it has been impossible to give more than a brief overview in this thesis, or to the specific figures of the Master, Drusilla, or William the Bloody. Too little concrete information exists for the Master (whom the current Slayer, Ms. Buffy Summers, defeated in May 1997) to make him an appropriate subject for this work. The mad vampiress Drusilla has attracted a certain amount of scholarly attention (see e.g. Clarissa O'Leary, "A Dangerous Delirium: Drusilla the Mad", *Vampire Quarterly* 1942: 1-23) and would profit from further study. William the Bloody, like Drusilla, provides a fascinating nexus of personality preservation, atypical vampire characteristics, and noteworthy career, which render him a suitable subject for this study - the more so in that no previous monograph has been devoted to his career.

### **Research Methodology**

I approached the subject of William the Bloody by first acquiring an overview of the nature of the vampire species, and in particular the nature of his "family", the Line of Aurelius. I believe that William the Bloody's particular character and the peculiarity of much of his behaviour cannot be properly comprehended without a thorough grasp of this background. In the course of my research into the career of William the Bloody I found a great deal of information that calls into question what is traditionally believed to be true about vampires in general. I have included a theoretical reappraisal of the nature of the vampire species as part of my provisional conclusions.

The primary sources used in this thesis were of three kinds:

- 1) published written documentation - newspapers, books, articles.
- 2) unpublished written documentation - Watcher's Journals, diaries, correspondence by and interviews with observers and surviving victims (the latter recorded by the interviewer), and manuscripts preserved in various archives. When these were

inaccessible to me I relied on extracts and summaries of the relevant pages kindly provided by Quentin Travers.

3) direct encounters - encounters with vampires during field research.

I found the approach of Wackernagel (Luhan Wackernagel, *Theory and Phenomenology of Siring: Towards a Behavioural Analysis of Vampirism*, London 1974 (unpub.)) most useful in explaining certain features of William the Bloody's career, and especially his apparent personality preservation, which the more common theory of vampire creation cannot explain. I believe that Wackernagel's work was unreasonably discredited and hope that this thesis will prompt a re-examination of his conclusions. I also found Al-Hazred's observations on the spiritual characteristics of the vampire demon telling and fruitful, when I could grasp his meaning (Abdul Al-Hazred, *Necronomicon*, 900-910 AD, tr. Richard Burton, British Arabic Association Press, London 1878). Standard precautions were scrupulously observed in consulting this text, the translation of which, rather than the syphilis given out as public explanation, drove Sir Richard Burton mad.

I believe however that in research of this kind it is a grave error to attach oneself slavishly to one theoretical model exclusively, given the complexity of the subject matter. Aside from these general theoretical underpinnings, therefore, I have used for each chapter the theoretical approach most appropriate to the subject under specific discussion, taking my models freely from anthropology, primate biology, economics, criminology, psychology, statistical analysis, or whatever school of thought yielded the most fruitful results for the data in question.

Although research into supernatural beings is not as consistently dangerous as research into (e.g.) applied magic, some risks are naturally incurred, especially since the beings in question are inherently hostile to humans and generally do not wish to be investigated. Every mandated precaution was taken to ensure that the researcher was not put at undue risk, and that no bystander was endangered or alerted to the existence of vampires, following the standard protocols established by the Council of Watchers (*Protocols for the Use of Field Researchers*, CoW Publications, London 1873, 4<sup>th</sup> ed. 1984). The necessary authorizations and post-encounter reports are filed with the Council Secretariat.

## CHAPTER ONE: Known Information

What little certain information we have for William the Bloody can be quickly summarized:

- He has killed two Slayers
- He has a great deal of emotional feeling for a vampire
- He is considered attractive
- He earned the nickname of Spike by torturing victims with railroad spikes

The amount of confirmed, verified information available on William the Bloody is scant, considering his accomplishments. For a vampire that has killed two Slayers, the Council of Watchers has not been able to determine, prior to this date, conclusive evidence of even basic details about William the Bloody, such as his sire and date of siring. The only definite information about William the Bloody's vampire heritage is that he is a member of the Aurelius clan, descended from the Master Heinrich Ness.(1) He has spent decades in the company of the Scourge of Europe, Angelus, and his brides Darla, Angelus' sire, and Drusilla, sired by Angelus.(2)

William the Bloody's greatest claim to fame is the two Slayers who died by his hand. According to the Watcher Diaries of Sir Nicholas Brisby(3), William the Bloody defeated the Slayer Chen Ma in combat at some point in July, 1900. Sir Nicholas, who was not present at this final battle, writes that "My Slayer was forced to patrol at even greater lengths at this time, due to the insurrection currently being staged by the native rebels. I last saw Ma in the early evening of July 14, when she reported that she had information on a quartet of vampires, whose descriptions matched those of Angelus and his family. I fear that she encountered a member of the Aurelius clan at some point during her last patrol, and sadly was defeated by said member."

Based on research done by Sir Nicholas,(4) the identification of William the Bloody as the killer has been accepted by the Council. Chen Ma possessed a sword, blessed by a local cleric, that allowed her to inflict wounds on vampires that would not heal properly, and would cause scarring. Sir Nicholas was able to determine that William the Bloody had received a flesh wound, at some point after June 1900, over his left eye, which did not heal and caused a scar through his eyebrow. Based on this scar, and by witness reports of a shift in attitudes towards William the Bloody within his clan, it seems obvious that Chen Ma fell to William the Bloody.

William the Bloody kept a low profile for the next 77 years, and there are few confirmed records of his activities (5) before he again came to the notice of the Council with his successful attack on Nikki Wood, Slayer under Mr. Bernard Crowley.(6) Apparently, Miss Wood first encountered William the Bloody in the New York City subway system on the evening of November 1, 1977. She did not approach him at this time, choosing to observe him and report to her Watcher instead of provoking attack. Miss Wood gave her Watcher a detailed report on the current habits and appearance of William, saying that he seemed to be an undead member of the punk movement.

In the intervening days, Miss Wood reported to her Watcher of having "felt a tingle on the back of my neck, like that damn bleached vampire was hanging around."(7) Mr. White felt that William the Bloody was following the Slayer and attempting to unnerve her with the threat of a battle against him. According to Mr. White, this invisible taunting by William the Bloody began to infuriate the Slayer. Against his advice, Miss Wood challenged the vampire on the evening of November 19, again in the New York subway system. Her body was discovered later that night, with a broken neck and without the long leather coat that had been her trademark. In light of accepted research into vampire feeding habits(8), it is unknown what the significance is of the lack of feeding and the appropriation of the Slayer's coat.

Barring details of their last battles, the information on the interactions of the Slayers with William the Bloody has been well-documented by these Slayers' Watchers. It is surprising that no Watcher to this point, especially when faced with a threat to his Slayer, has further explored the details of William the Bloody's human life, his death, and his past habits and activities. Thanks to William's recent interactions with the current Slayer, more information is available on his current activities.(9) We have also been able to discern some details of his personality thanks to Mr. Giles' reports.(10)

William the Bloody has long been reputed to display a remarkable amount of feeling for a soulless creature. He certainly enjoys several "guilty pleasures," among them food, football, and television, in the words of Mr. Giles.(11) More concrete, however, is his long-standing affair with the vampire Drusilla. The insane seer is reputed, albeit inconclusively, to be William the Bloody's sire. William the Bloody has been enamoured with Drusilla since the 1880s, if not before.(12) It has long been well-known in vampiric circles that any threat to Drusilla would be met swiftly and with extreme violence from William. He has also gone to extraordinary measures to protect and care for Drusilla. The couples initially visited the Hellmouth with the object of curing Drusilla, who had become incapacitated after an attack by a mob in Prague. It is reported that William risked his own unlife to rescue Drusilla from this mob, and then provided for all her needs--feeding, clothing, bathing, and necessary frequent amusement--en route to Sunnydale, California.(13) Based on this level of nurture and concern, it is to be assumed that William the Bloody and Drusilla have a relationship of mutual caring, and will probably continue to be associated with each other until one or both are eliminated.

It is quite amazing that William the Bloody would form a relationship of this type, as vampires are certainly not known for monogamy. He is known to be a very attractive example of the species, based on eyewitness reports and existing photographs. Prior to his long-standing identification with the punk rock movement, William the Bloody also styled his appearance on the 1950s rebel without a cause, the 1920s bootlegger, and the late Victorian working man. In all instances, such costumes were designed to reflect a certain danger, rebelliousness, and sexual appeal towards women. One near-victim, who was saved thanks to the timely intervention of a Watcher, stated that she "felt an attraction to him beyond all reason. He was so different from any other man I had ever seen; he looked into my soul and saw the darkness that I craved, and seemed to promise that he would give it to me."(14) While it has been determined that William does not possess hypnotic powers such as thrall, his confidence and sexual prowess seem to make

him rather difficult for any woman to resist. This is especially true when he has set his sights on said woman in order to lure her into becoming his next meal.

Yet William the Bloody is not just a lover; he is known to be an excellent fighter. This could go without saying, as any vampire to have defeated two Slayers would most likely be considered the most powerful vampire in the world. Yet William has shown himself to be capable of quite brutal acts. His current moniker of Spike dates back to an event in the late 1850's in Marseilles, when a vampire later identified as William the Bloody tortured at least one, and possibly up to four, individuals with a railroad spike.(15) The bodies of the victims were inflicted with such wounds as to cause even the hardest of Watchers and other bystanders to extreme bouts of nausea and nightmares. In my opinion, however, the available evidence suggests all but conclusively that William the Bloody was not sired until circa 1880. I believe therefore that the attacks in Marseilles were made by another vampire, and later attributed to William the Bloody on the strength of a series of similar attacks which were certainly made by him. In the spring of 1880 in London William the Bloody attacked five humans with a railroad spike, and again in 1912 in New York, three humans--two of them women--were killed in the same way. No further records exist of William the Bloody's victims dying in this manner. Perhaps more victims were not similarly tortured because of the gradual elimination of railroads as a means of travel within the United States, which has been the vampire's chosen nation for the last 70 years.(16) Even if we restrict our investigation to those attacks that can certainly be attributed to William the Bloody, however, they are evidence of a streak of brutal cruelty in our subject.

The amount of known information about William the Bloody is so scanty that it behooves researchers to begin to consider the reasons behind this oversight. Quite possibly, this is due to an abundance of research on both the unsouled and souled iterations of the vampire known now as Angel, as well as on his sire Darla. Yet the exploits of William the Bloody merit further study, in light of his fascination with Slayers and the success of the current Slayer in defeating him.(17) If knowledge of William the Bloody could lead to his execution by the Slayer, this knowledge might be extrapolated to other similar vampires. In fact, William the Bloody could serve as the example for a new theory on vampirism.

**NOTES**

- (1) Mariposa, Emile de. *The Family of Aurelius*, Volumes 1-3 "The Master-Ness" and Volume 6 "Darla and Angelus". London: Council of Watchers internal monographs, 1902-1923.
- (2) Travers, Quentin et. al. *Who's Who in the World of Damned Creatures*. London: COW Publishing, 1988.
- (3) Brisby, Sir Nicholas. *A Watcher's Diary*. Unpublished, 1874-1902.
- (4) Ibid., "The Death of Chen Ma," in *Slayer Death Reports*. London: COW Publishing, 1914.
- (5) Anon., *Things to Do in Denmark When You're Dead: Following Well-Known Vampires Throughout Europe, 1900-1950*. Copenhagen: Vampir Books, 1961.
- (6) White, Reginald. *A Watcher's Diary*. Unpublished, 1970-1981.
- (7) Ibid.
- (8) Mimsy, Sir Paul. "Vampiric Killing and Feeding Habits" in *Vampyr*. London: Police Press, 1847. See also Chapter 5, "Feeding Habits", below.
- (9) Summers, Buffy. *A Slayer's Diary*. Unpublished, 1996-1998.
- (10) Giles, Rupert. *A Watcher's Diary*. Unpublished, 1986-1998.
- (11) Ibid.
- (12) Piston, Joan and Harten, Randy. *Chance Encounters - A Book of Finding Love in All the Wrong Places*. Maple Park: Never Never Publishers, 1987.
- (13) Czorza, Vaclev. *Illustrated History of Mid-European Mobs*. Prague: Dobro Press, 1998.
- (14) Wyndham, Wesley. *A Watcher's Diary*. Unpublished, 1898-1914
- (15) Smith-Cato, Bryce. *A Watcher's Diary*. Unpublished, 1849-1889.
- (16) Travers, Quentin et. al. *Who's Who in the World of Damned Creatures*. London: COW Publishing, 1988.
- (17) Summers, Buffy. *A Slayer's Diary*. Unpublished, 1996-1998.

## CHAPTER TWO: The Order of Aurelius and the Modern Lineage

It has been widely accepted that William the Bloody is the latest heir of the Line of Aurelius, one of the most powerful and notorious vampiric clans ever to appear in the literature. Most vampire 'clans' are no more than loose communities of fellow-travellers that fall part in five years or less, as I have said above (see the Introduction.) Most of those few clans that possess the necessary internal cohesion to survive the first few years reach their zenith within a century. The Aurelius line however has been an integral and formidable dynasty that has stood the test of time. Courting attention and seeking fame is not the usual pattern of any clan, but the Aurelians have never been ones to rest on their laurels. On the contrary, over the past millennia, they have forged a reputation that has spanned from the western shores of the New World to the deepest reaches of Asia Minor. As Jacobs (1) wrote in his seminal paper on the clan, the Order of Aurelius has consistently been a sounding board on which to gauge other clans, and the gold standard by which we still define evil among vampires.

The Aurelians likely arose from a preceding vampire clan, probably usurping power from an established hierarchy before pressing forward to forge its own history. To this day, its origins as a new line are murky at best. Most of the ancient archives belonging to what would some day form the Watchers Council were destroyed in the Great Fire of Rome in 64 CE or lost to the ages. But much information can be gleaned from the remnants. By the time the Roman Empire was in decline and Constantine the Great died in 337 CE, the Order of Aurelius had already established itself as a worthy adversary to both the Slayer line and its Watchers (2).

Reveling in death and destruction, the Order of Aurelius acted as the obscene opposite of the Pax Romana that emperor Marcus Aurelius Antoninus brought to the empire in the same period that marks the earliest records of the clan. It has been speculated by some (3) that the order's very name was chosen to make a mockery of the emperor's many achievements, as no one vampire named Aurelius has ever been properly identified.

Even in its infancy, the clan had chosen not to prosper in the shadows of humanity. Rather, it set its sights on the Slayer, actively seeking the Chosen One as war trophies, and killing at least four (including the trophies of William the Bloody). In 221 CE a Watcher simply named Ulpus wrote that his Slayer Claudia was slaughtered by one of the Aurelians (4). Little is known about the circumstances surrounding her death. Ulpus reports that she engaged in battle with at least one Aurelian and did not survive the melee.

Livia was another Slayer that fell at the hands of the Aurelius clan. Her death is vividly documented in the Sentry's Letter (5), a manuscript reportedly written by a member of the Praetorian Guard who had witnessed her untimely demise in 236 CE. Her body was drained and her head left on a pike. This Slayer had met her match with a praetorian turned Aurelian named Magnus. As the legend goes, Magnus wrote a warning to all who dared to cross the Order of Aurelius on the wall of a bathhouse with the dead Slayer's blood. It marked the Aurelians' rise of power and heralded the dawn of a new empire.

This repeated pattern of wanton carnage would be the Aurelians' calling card for the next two millennia. The clan prospered as Europe grew. Extending throughout the vast expanse that had once been the Roman Empire, the clan grew exponentially, feasting on nomads and noblemen alike. Like a deadly miasma, they spread through villages in the wake of the Black Death, adding to the fear and hysteria sweeping through humanity. As the plague consumed nearly one fourth of the entire Europe's population, the Children of Aurelius capitalized on the terror. Disguised as physicians and donning the nightmarish beaked masks worn to combat the stench of death, they would infiltrate households, siring the healthiest survivors and feeding on the weak (6). The drained corpses were easily disposed of among the bodies riddled with black and oozing buboes. Horror stories quickly spread of corpses rising from mass graves. Many contemporaries wrote these tales off as nothing more than plague-laden ghost stories, or signs of an impending apocalypse. To us, however, the Black Death clearly marks the era where the Aurelians became bolder in their activity.

It was here in the shadows of the Black Death that one of the Order's most influential and long-standing patriarchs was sired. Born Heinrich Josef Ness (7), the vampire who would simply be known as the Master was sired amid the filth and pestilence of plague riddled Nuremberg in 1397. It did not take long for him to ascend the ranks and assume leadership of the growing clan. His fellow Aurelians either pledged fealty to him or were quickly destroyed.

Matthias Holbein illustrated this vampire's unwavering cruelty in his Watcher's diaries, vividly recounting acts of senseless torture to vampires and humans alike. The Master was fascinated with the demonic dimensions, and frequently offered his fledglings and victims as sacrifices to conjure demons to do his bidding. No monster dared to defy this megalomaniac, and it has been documented that he still had a loyal court of minions even at the time of his demise in 1997 (8).

The Master spent his entire existence furthering the Order, propagating the line and warring with opposing factions of vampires. By the middle of the Fifteenth Century, his court ruled with an iron fist from the western shores of Spain to the foothills of the Ural Mountains (9).

He often sired several within a generation, picking and choosing the strongest lieutenants from his victims. Many willing offered their necks for a chance to be among his chosen few. With this network deeply entrenched within the major hubs of Europe such as Vienna, Paris, Amsterdam, London and Prague, the Master set his sights on the New World.

Some time in 1603, the Master was smuggled aboard the *Cornucopia*, captained by a Bartholomew Gilbert and destined for Chesapeake Bay in the colonies. Previous archives attributed the deaths of the crew to a native attack, but reexamination of the evidence lends credence to the hypothesis of a vampire attack. Jerome Sullivan, in his paper to the Bicentennial Conference of Watchers, on the evidence of the recently-discovered



captain's log, argues that chaos had reigned supreme throughout the journey, with Gilbert and three surviving sailors the last to be slaughtered as soon as they made landfall (10).

From the shores of Chesapeake Bay the Master eventually made his way to the Jamestown settlement. By that time, the vast majority of the original settlers had succumbed to hunger or disease. The remnant kept a constant vigil against the indigenous Algonquin tribe (11). It did not take long for him to establish a home in the colony, and the death rate began to rise noticeably. It has been argued that he began a subclan in the Americas by siring both settlers and natives alike (12). The new flock of fierce and willing minions bided its time, lying in wait for the right moments to strike.

Of his many minions, one young prostitute seems to have captured his attention like no other. According to Holst (13), she was born Prudence Foster, but renamed Darla under the Master's tutelage. At the time of her death, she is said to have been dying of syphilis. She was reborn a heartless killer. Once a pariah within Jamestown, she quickly became the Master's brightest and most beloved fledgling. It did not take long before she had ascended the ranks and was his beloved consort, and showed no mercy to those who had used her as a human.

Together they swept across the countryside leaving a trail of death in their wake. They were in unstoppable pair. In 1622, nearly 300 settlers in surrounding plantations died at what has been misinterpreted by historians as an Algonquin massacre. The carnage all but reached the Jamestown settlement (14). The morale of the entire region was destroyed.

As Darla grew more powerful, the Master began to grant her more freedom. By the end of the Seventeenth Century, Darla had decided to venture to the British Isles while the Master remained in the Americas. He trusted her implicitly and sent her as his personal emissary in a quest to gain control from warring vampiric clans in Dublin and London (15).

While in Ireland, Darla decided to start her own line of progeny. In the decade that she traversed the island nation, there is evidence that she sired at least a half-dozen vampires, whom she beheaded or staked when she grew tired of them. She possessed an insatiable appetite for young men, and prowled outside taverns and inns for unsuspecting playthings and meals alike. Often she would stalk a target for weeks, learning his weaknesses along the way. She was a born hunter, and used her skills to snare her most cherished prize of all. He would become her child, her lover, her peer, her Angelus.

Born on February 17, 1727 to a merchant family, Liam Gallagher was the second of three sons, and was known for his love of strong drink and easy women. It was autumn, right before the harvest of 1753, when Gallagher was laid to rest County Galway. A victim of a supposed vicious animal mauling, his throat had been torn open and he had perished from the blood loss (16). The next night, the countryside was terrorized by a new and terrifying monster, one that would be known as the Scourge of Europe.

The monstrous killer with an angel's face, the demonic Liam quickly adopted the new name Angelus, joining his sire both at her side in the hunt and in her bed as a mate. He was not a typical fledgling. Within the first week of his new existence, he had slaughtered his entire family in Galway and set fire to the family home. Angelus learned quickly, and honed his skills as a vampire with swift efficiency.

His ferocity drew attention of clans near and afar, and it did not take long for the Master to notice the new addition to the Aurelius line. In 1760, Darla finally presented him to the Master who welcomed the new heir into the court with open arms (17). There, Angelus learned the finer points of the kill from his grandsire. The elder vampire seems to have accepted the young Angelus as a protégé and groomed him for a leadership role. Although the chronicles do not often place the two vampires in the same location or even on the same continent, Angelus seems to have early acquired the Master's full confidence.

Within a decade, from what scanty records survive, Darla seems to have relinquished her power to Angelus and yielded some control of the Aurelians residing in Britain. By that time, Angelus had asserted himself as the patriarch of the clan after the Master returned to the Americas. He ruled with intimidation. Minions fell in line to serve him, and humans learned to fear him.

Yet during this transfer of power, Angelus' eyes began to wander. Granted it is vampiric nature to actively seek out future progeny and victims, but Angelus would fixate on targets. However weary Darla may have grown of this behaviour, from what little evidence exists, she did nothing to hinder it.

It is ironic that the cold and calculated Angelus would find his first progeny cloistered and ready to take her final vows as a nun. Yet she was no ordinary novice in a convent. Margaret Mary Witfield had entered the order to escape the premonitions that plagued her every day of her life. Labeled a demon by her family, she looked for solace in the Roman Catholic Church. The girl could see the future, and the burden of her gift drove her to the edge of sanity (18). An unsuspecting victim, she was pushed toward madness by the vampiric specter of Angelus and he tormented her in and out of her visions, encouraging the fear surrounding her gift.

Angelus watched from afar and bided his time until the day she would eventually take her final vows and enter the sisterhood before he drew her into his clan in the spring of 1860. He drained her in the convent's chapel. The few surviving sisters found her body strewn on the altar, the sanctuary desecrated (19). Well aware of what had murdered her, the sisters buried Ms. Whitfield's body in the convent's cemetery and kept a prayer vigil over the fresh grave.

By morning, the grave was empty, and the sisters guarding the grave were found dead, their necks broken and blood drained. Drusilla had risen.

Already quite mad at the time of her human demise, Drusilla retained the psychotic delusions with which her human counterpart had been afflicted. Her gift of clairvoyance

has also been well documented in the Watcher's literature. Her ravings even heralded the awakening of Acatla (20). All the evidence agrees, however, that despite the occasional lucid moment, the new vampire was utterly insane. She obeyed the voices in her head, and vacillated between moments of clarity in which she was a true hunter and moments of absolute madness, when she was as docile as a toddler with those she trusted.

Angelus seems to have been well pleased with his creation, and over the next decade shared his affections with both his sire Darla and new plaything. Drusilla was a quick study, and it did not take long before she joined the other Aurelians on the many hunts that would define their reign of terror. Her appetite for blood and sexual gratification rivaled only that of Angelus himself (21).

Yet within the first two decades of her incarnation, Drusilla had become a burden. She was unpredictable, sometimes incapacitated by her visions. She was a liability as much as an ally. Though Darla often viewed her as a beloved child, the elder vampire also saw her as competition or deadweight. The clan could not be hindered by a madwoman. She drew unwelcome attention to the "family" at times when the clan wished to maintain a low profile.

Fortunately for her survival, Drusilla seems to have been easily subdued with playthings. Old Aurelian nests were often littered with an array of mutilated fragments of porcelain dolls - her favorite. With these she could play in her own mysterious world where she held tea parties and executions alike (22). She was mother and goddess over her inanimate minions, with which she could be distracted for hours or days. She was captivated by her playthings, and perhaps it is not surprising that she could be enthralled by something greater, something she could love and cherish forever.

She needed her own mate, one that would be implicitly hers, and could care for her when she was caught in the throes of a vision, and hunt with her side by side. On a dark London night around 1880, she was granted such a gift. It was at this time that William the Bloody joined the Order of Aurelius.

Unlike his immediate predecessors, William's origins are murkier. Though the Aurelian clan's antics are well documented at the end of the Nineteenth Century, there is a paucity of concrete information regarding his actual siring and early fledgling activities, although the literature is full of evidence documenting Angelus and his women.

An established clan, they had made London their home after cutting a swath of murderous carnage across the West Country in 1878. The archives at Scotland Yard clearly show a rise in mortality within the City of London itself shortly after Angelus and his clan were first sighted (22). Bodies were found floating in the Thames. Corpses of unfortunate lower-class men and women littered alleyways in the Whitechapel region long before Jack the Ripper started his rampage. The official reports listed animal attack or knifing as the cause of death in these cases, but recently released files suggest that at least some of these were vampiric feedings.

This was the climate that gave birth to William the Bloody.

Currently there are two schools of thought pertaining to William's siring. In fact, there has been a debate for nearly as long as William has existed regarding who is truly his sire - Angelus or Drusilla. As a fledgling, he had been seen with both vampires, learning the finer points of the hunt and testing out his new skills.

It has been long believed that Angelus was the vampire that had sired William as a distraction for Drusilla, given to her much like one of her dolls. One hypothesis was that Angelus grew tired of caring for his insane charge, and created a caretaker. He was the one spotted teaching the new fledgling to hunt and feed (23). Angelus had taken the role of disciplinarian, often reining in the new vampire's temper with both fist and fangs.

Yet a recent exploration into Drusilla gives credibility to the theory that she was the true sire. Though William's death and eventual rising were witnessed by no one, there are brief references to a dark haired woman seen in the neighborhood before he was turned. Dressed more lavishly than the lower-class prostitutes that dotted the streets, police records recount a mysterious woman lurking in the shadows, spying in windows, and following young men (24). At other times she was sighted with another woman and man. Their descriptions are consistent with Angelus and his women.

Either way, William the Bloody was welcomed into the clan in or near 1880. His identity in life remains unclear. Whoever he was, and however he seemed to die, he did not stay interred for long. Without further knowledge of his family it is impossible to say whether they met the same fate as Angelus'. But it is certainly true that almost from 'birth', William the Bloody was more dangerous than most members even of the Aurelian line.

## NOTES

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(2) Weilert, NG et al. *Ancient Slayer Lore of Greece and Rome*, London. COW Press, 1858.

(3) Ibid. (326)

(4) Ulpius, Personal journal. c. 221. London: Watcher Council of Britain Private Archives.

(5) Anonymous: The Sentry's Letter. c. 268. Rome: Vatican Archives.

(6) Hillerup, Peter: *A Vampire's View of the Black Death*. Toronto: Yersinia Pestis Press, 1962.

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- (13) Holst, Brandon J. "Darla: The Birth of Monster," *Journal of Paranormal Activity of North America*. 1956. 254-298.
- (14) Whedon, Martin. *Jamestown from the Underside*. London: COW Press, 1998.
- (15) see note 13.
- (16) Van Beuren, Claudia. "Examining the Scourge: Angelus Revealed." *Vampire Hunters*. 1971. 189-247.
- (17) Ibid.
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- (20) Giles, Rupert. *A Watcher's Diary*. Unpublished, 1986-1998.
- (21) Landau, Martha. "Drusilla Uncovered," *Journal of the Occult*. 1994. 90-132.
- (22) Police Blotter, *Scotland Yard Archives*. 1880.
- (23) Bolivar, Charles. "The Children of Aurelius," *Demons Quarterly*, 1987. 45-62.
- (24) Death Records, St. Peter's Parish, London England.

### **CHAPTER THREE: An Alternate Theory of Vampirism**

This chapter will group the existing literature into different subsets:

- (1) the vampire is a predator, solely motivated by hunger;
- (2) the vampire is motivated by (sexual) power, like rapists. These theories then attempt to explain why (original material included);
- (3) the vampire is a victim of ordinary demonic possession.

I wish to expostulate a fourth theory

- (4) the vampire is a complex, sentient being, whose motivations lie partly in (1) and (2) but also in experiences accrued in earlier life (i.e., comparable to homo sapiens)).

#### **Vampire as Predator**

In much of recent scientific material, in keeping with academic fashions of the past two decades, vampirism is treated as a physical infestation of a dead body, comparable to a viral infection. It states that the host (i.e. the corpse) is the vehicle of the demonic infestation, and that the demon, or virus, is a completely new entity. From this starting point, the demon is viewed as a sub-sentient, animalistic entity, which has feeding, breeding and surviving as its only motivators.

As Le Cochon states, (Le Cochon et al., *Le Vampirisme explique comme le Loup-Garou, le Yeti et les Pieds-Grands*, Sorbonne 1974), he expostulates 'demonic infestation' as akin to a hitherto unknown virus, albeit one that propagates, by magic and not by reproduction, in the classic viral sense. Le Cochon's background is medical, and he tries to show in his famous 1974 study that, like a viral infection, a vampiric infection can be cured. Unfortunately, due to his mysterious disappearance (no body was ever found), his experiments were dismantled and the evidence (i.e., corpses) destroyed. My enquiries at the Sorbonne elicited no other response than polite disbelief and later, ridicule. In the present day, there are no well-known universities that have research in this field.

The University of Transylvania, however, offered a course in 'How to survive in human society; make like a virus', as late as 1996. Unfortunately, due to the unstable peace condition in that region, I was unable to contact UTR.

#### **Vampire as Sexually Motivated**

The only known theory on the vampire as a metaphor of sexual power is from N. McBeight, 'Vampirism as a male chauvinist' 1988, NYU. She states that it is a delusional state, entered into by males powered by the classic rapist syndromes: (real or perceived) lack of power, lack of social skills, lack of education, excess of testosterone. Ms. McBeight is a theorist, and offers no case studies or interview to support her case. I will take her lack of citation as exposition of her academic weakness, and will disregard her theory.

#### **Vampire as Demonically Possessed**

The viewpoint of earlier scholarship on the demonic infestation derives from Judeo-Christian views; i.e. the demon is an existing entity, originating from [a] Hell that inhabits the deceased human host. In this body of material, vampirism is viewed as aberrant demonic behavior, insofar as it is the only occurrence of demonic inhabitation in dead hosts. No exorcism is advised, as the human host cannot be reclaimed, and easier methods of killing the animated corpse exist.

In the excellent *Die Dämonen Mitteleuropas* (part vi, Schickelgrueber et al. Heidelberg 1856) occurs the following passage: "(We) then visited said young Person in the Insanity Ward of the Hospital in D. Kathe S., a young Person, formerly gainfully employed as a Milkmaid, now appeared wholly without the robust Health one expected from one in such an Occupation. Her Visage was Blanched, her Eyes Red-rimmed, and she continued to moan in a most uncouth Manner, forcing us to leave our Wives outside. She had refused Sustenance this fortnight, yet still appeared alive. Her Eyeteeth appeared elongated, and she spoke to us using language no Milkmaid might be expected to know, leading us to the Suspicion she was not a Virtuous Creature, and may have called her unhappy Lot on herself. Dr. Heine tested the Crucifix on her, causing serious Burning on her forehead. We diagnosed Demonic Infestation, and proceeded with the Exorcism. However, our efforts appeared to be in Vain. The Demon howled and writhed most shockingly, exposing Herself to us, but did not leave Kathe S. We then proceeded with our second Solution, that of Burning. It is my opinion that in these types of Possession, namely with Vampiric Demons (those exhibiting the physical signs as described) destruction is the only and Final Solution." End of citation (ch. 5, ...Endlösung.)

In this and other cited cases before the 1880's, we see that the scientists believe in ordinary demonic possession, the only difference being distinct physical characteristics. Herr Heine does not seem to realize his Kathe S. is already dead, and we see that notion dawn only gradually. (15)

"Salem, 1951. R. was found by her parents, after an absence of several months. She is described as animalistic, foul-mouthed, promiscuous, diseased, unnatural. Only after the parish priest is called in, does the family realize demonic inhabitation may be the case. Exorcism is attempted and fails. When her parents see R. burn up in the sunlight, after they have set her forcibly to hoeing potatoes, the word vampire falls. Researchers from Harvard University tried to reconstruct the history of this case, but failed."

Transcript of Transmission on Police Radio, Trenton P.D, 11-02- 1994: "...(static) get out the stakes, man, and the holy water. This is no gang, they're vampires! Morelli? You stay with the radio, this is not for rookies. OK, the drill is this; put the pointy end in their hearts. Don't get bitten, throw the holy water at them, wear your cross, and pray! Let's go guys!... (static) ...Request reinforcements, officer down, I repeat, officer down... (static) ..."

Standard methods of vampire destruction and defense seemed accepted by the Trenton P.D. as late as 1994.

### **Vampire as Complex Sentient Being**

My claim, supported by the following original research, is that none of the above theories is tenable. All three contribute important insights into the demonic nature of the vampire, and the way the demon manages to inhabit the body, but do not take into account the following facts:

1. the host memory remains intact;
2. [parts of] the host personality remain intact;
3. it is possible (see: Angelus/Angel) to reinsert the (original!) soul (or superego) into the host;
4. [remnants of] host (i.e. human) emotion may be experienced by a vampire.

I postulate therefore, that a vampire is a complex sentient being, a symbiotic relationship between dead body, memory and personality of the human host, and the demonic invader, who contributes a means to continued existence (remember, the host is dead); and who seems to disable Ueberich (Superego), leaving a 'personality' that is motivated by Ich (Ego) and Es (Id) drives.



## CHAPTER FOUR: Appearance and Habitat

### *The Psychology of "Spike"*

#### Introduction

In the course of my studies, I have been able to observe one distinct pattern about William the Bloody, namely, that his appearance varies according to the environments he inhabits and the self-image he wishes to project. This is not altogether surprising. Survival through the ages depends on adaptation. Times change and vampires must evolve with them, if for no other reason than as a survival mechanism. However, over the course of an unnaturally long lifetime, this kind of evolution can be embraced conservatively, with reservations, or with *joie de vivre* and gusto. In the case of William the Bloody, it is the latter option that pertains.

William the Bloody's evolving appearance is tied closely into the ever-developing mythos of his personality. Moreover, as I shall show below, it is this evolving personality that is one of the "secrets" of his longevity and his success as a notorious Slayer of Slayers. William uses his very appearance to fixate attention on his fame as a vampire who has bested Slayers, thus the deliberateness of his dress at this time. No wonder then that his appearance now is quite similar to the way he looked at the time he murdered his last Slayer, Nikki Wood. He believes it is his reputation as a Slayer of Slayers that instills respect for him in other vampires and fear in the hearts of his enemies. For him, the clothes or outward appearance symbolize the man.

To show how his presentation of himself has evolved, I plan to present an account of William the Bloody's changing appearances and habitats in a unit organized historically. In this way, we can see how this notorious vampire's appearance and his reputation developed self-consciously over time.

For much of my information, I will rely on accounts of Watchers who have spotted him from time to time in various cities across the globe and demon hunters who have hunted him over the years - always unsuccessfully.

#### Section I: Two Sharp Points of Origin

There is some dispute in the literature over William's true age, although several mainstream sources place his genesis in the late 1700s. (1) Edwin Marsh, a highly influential scholar and Watcher, describes William thus in his *Compendium of Vampiric lives* (Marsh, 1977):

**Spike:** Known as William the Bloody. He earned his nickname by torturing his victims with railroad spikes. He is barely two hundred years old. Spike has fought two Slayers in the last century and killed them both. Do NOT allow his cherubic appearance to mislead you as to his deadly nature. This vampire is known to be particularly manipulative and he fights ruthlessly with no quarter given or taken, often combining his considerable skill

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with the latest available technology. He enjoys fighting most when the odds weigh heavily against him. He relishes boasting about his deeds to others. Above all, he is willing to do anything to please his consort, the raving Drusilla. (2)

Curiously, however, Marsh musters no evidence to support his conclusion that William is "barely 200 years old". The absence of evidence leads inevitably to the consideration that Marsh is relying on older authorities on this point, not on any first hand knowledge.

After extensive reviewing of the literature, I found a partial answer to this puzzle in a description that Aubrey Gareth provides of "William the Bloody" in the VII<sup>th</sup> Volume of his *Diary of a Watcher* (Gareth, vol.7, 1932).

The vampire is attractive of countenance, with high cheekbones, light brown hair, and a thin and noble face. Yet his face belies his true nature, for he is known to be particularly manipulative and he fights ruthlessly with no quarter given or taken. Indeed, he appears to enjoy the fight most when the odds are entirely against him. He rarely loses an encounter. (3)

The use of the phrase, "[he] is known to be particularly manipulative and he fights ruthlessly with no quarter given or taken," in Gareth is the exact wording that later reappears, unattributed, in Marsh's *Compendium of Vampiric Lives* (Marsh, 1977 (4)). The repetition of this precise language, and then his paraphrase of the next line, surely no accident, confirms that Gareth is Marsh's main source on this point.

However, it is clear from Gareth's biographical dates, from 1890-1941, that he, himself, could have only encountered William sometime within the twentieth century. Marsh's description of William the Bloody in the 18<sup>th</sup> century bespeaks an earlier, more authoritative encounter. And so it is, after much research in dusty libraries and the scouring of filthy attics seeking manuscripts hidden in ancient trunks, I believe I have finally tracked down the original source for Aubrey Gareth's description of William the Bloody. And this, in turn, is the source of Marsh's "authoritative" dating of William the Bloody's siring by Angelus in the late 1700s.

Amongst the *Annals of the Society of Demon Hunters* (Anonymous, vol.11), I found the rumor of a fierce hunter named Holz, prominent in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century throughout Europe and Britain. His hunting aide, Bertrand Childe, tells the tragic circumstances of Holz's life, how Angelus and Darla slaughtered his wife and children, and turned his youngest daughter into a vampire (5). This is what fueled Holz's personal hatred of Angelus and Darla, so that it became the ruling obsession of his life. Holz himself writes as follows:

*With the world around me now shrunken so that it was entirely dark and cold and joyless, I lived for one purpose alone. Daily and nightly, for months on end, I sought Angelus and Darla, a cat and mouse game of betrayal and flight. And, in Marseilles, in the year of our Lord 1767, by whose eternal grace I still toil, I tracked down the unholy pair through the excesses of their ill deeds and drew near to them once more. And then, at last, I snared them in my net. Yet, once again, through devilish machinations and their joyful betrayal of each other, they*

*wriggled free, like two snakes slithering in the grass before escaping down some dank hole that no one else can discover. Nor did the Gendarmes who accompanied me, provided locally in the name of King Louis XVIIIth, aid me in their recovery. They were ill trained, though much afraid of what we faced that night, I have no doubt.*

*Angelus and Darla were not alone that night in Marseilles. Angelus had by his side a young man of attractive countenance, high cheekbones, light brown hair, a thin and noble face, such that it was a tragedy, indeed, the man had been deformed to the vampiric state. Angelus taunted the man for loving his lady passionately, for she, too, like Darla, was fair. I make no doubt that these were recently turned vampires, mortal lovers fledged to their unholy state by Angelus and Darla as fodder to amuse and torture. Indeed, in the love and concern they still showed each other, traces of their mortal love lingered on, proving their extreme youth in vampire years. For it is against the nature of a vampire to love profoundly. Love is the sign of Our Lord, never of the devil's works. Amongst demons, love cannot be sustained, only eroded. (6)*

It is the second paragraph that is of interest here. We see that Holz's description of this male vampire in company with Angelus is paraphrased in Gareth's language. It is obvious that Gareth understood Holz to be referring to William the Bloody and Drusilla. Note further that this is the first mention of a vampire couple sired by Angelus and Darla and in company with them. Can this be the first historical mention of William the Bloody and Drusilla? If it is, then Gareth and Marsh are proven correct in their assumption that William the Bloody is near two hundred years old.

To this, I answer a resounding no, as I now have access to two pieces of evidence that lead me to dispute Gareth and Marsh's conclusion in its entirety. In October 1997, Dr. Fliesning and I traveled to Yorkshire to visit the Reading estate. At Holz's death, his young sister who had married into the Reading family inherited all of his affects. There, at the Reading estate, Dr. Fliesning persuaded the family to give us exclusive access to a trunk of Holz's private papers. (7) By the merest good fortune, this contained private correspondence from Bertrand Childe to Holz. Bertrand Childe was for a period of a few years, from 1766-1772, one of Holz' adjutant demon hunters. 1772 is the year that Holz disappeared, presumed slain by vampires and his body disposed of in some unsavory way. Holz received some of Childe's letters and presumably answered them although we do not possess his responses. The latest letters in the series, however, were never opened, apparently because by the time they arrived, Holz had already disappeared, his fate unknown. These last letters were preserved among his effects, their seal left intact, unopened until recently. They were sent back to England with the rest of Holz' possessions in a leather bound trunk, which sat for 228 years in the Reading attic, covered by accumulating dust and debris.(8)

Childe writes from Naples in January 1772, where he pursued Darla after her escape from Rome with Angelus in 1771. To weaken their pursuers' forces, Darla and Angelus chose different roads, Darla went South while Angelus traveled North to Lake Como where he left a trail of carnage through the Italian Alps.(9) Their pursuers were forced to split their small troop in half,

which weakened their effectiveness. Childe voyaged south where his small band soon lost Darla's trail. On a hunch, he ended up alone in Naples. And then, long after he had given up hope for his mission and was about to take ship for Dover, he ran into Darla by chance. In the interim, she made *rendezvous* with the young vampire couple she and Angelus had traveled with in Marseilles.

*By the merest good fortune, I spotted my prey carousing through the market place one dark winter's day when the sun stayed hidden and the vampires had emerged early to wreak havoc in the city. She was with two others I recognized – a vampire couple I had seen five years ago, with you, my friend, in Marseilles. I followed carefully behind them until I saw the three of them enter a three-story house with curtains drawn. I spied on the house for hours from late afternoon to evening to night, but no one emerged. The next evening and the next, I tracked them on foot with the utmost care towards my own safety, changing my appearance both day and night so that they would not recognize me and applying various oils and fragrances to my person to disguise even my scent so they could not identify it on the air. Several times, I sat near by them in an inn as they imbibed alcohol and heard them call each other by name, Darla, James and Elizabeth.*

*Once I witnessed the trio commit murder, a horrible sight. But I was alone at that time and did not care to risk myself at those odds on a deserted lane. It would have meant my own certain death against all three. The police, when I contacted them both before and after the deed, proved both suspicious and superstitious, providing me with no help at all. I have attempted to locate Gibson and Smythe but they have not yet ridden to my aid. My only hope is to find the vampires venturing out on their own and so one by one, pick them off.*

In a later letter, Childe adds:

*I found a young artist here who draws a credible likeness. His straits are desperate, so he was easily persuaded to accompany me one evening as I tracked the vampires. Also, he did not realize his full danger. He made several good likenesses of them once they settled into a tavern. I include one of the sketches he made of the couple for your records to show you they match your recollection of the couple we first sighted five years ago. The artist seemed much impressed by Darla's looks. I worry for the poor man, as he seemed disinclined to believe what I told him of her doings. I believe he took it into his head that I was a scorned and jealous lover who would not leave the poor woman alone. (10) A romantic. I only hope his foolish notions do not cost him his life. (11)*

It is evident from the text of these letters that its subject is not William the Bloody, but rather a young vampire called James. The man in the sketch is handsome with light brown hair and chiseled cheekbones, but it is not William's remarkable face in the charcoal drawing. (12) The look of the woman, too, is entirely different from Drusilla. Elizabeth is fair-haired where Drusilla is dark. Furthermore, there is no report that this vampire is mad or a seer.

Accordingly, this new evidence conclusively disproves Marsh and Gareth's theory that William is over 200 years old. Indeed, there is no confirmed sighting of William the Bloody until 108 years later, in 1880.(13) This is the notorious murder of an American entrepreneur, Mr. Bryan Ganning, and his British mistress, Mrs. Jenny Winston that so rattled society of its time that it was discussed for weeks in the London newspapers(14) William earned his moniker "Spike" at this time by driving railroad spikes through the brains of Ganning and Winston and leaving their corpses neatly arranged on the steps of Mrs. Winston's mansion, in plain sight of passersby, or for Mrs. Winston's husband to discover. From then on, we hear of the deeds of William the Bloody, or a vampire it seems reasonable to suppose is him, at fairly regular intervals. There is never a long hiatus between his deeds. Thus, in vampire years, his true age is most likely in the range of 118-140 years.

## **Section 2: Appearance and Habitat in 1880:**

### **1. LONDON**

As far as I can determine, then, 1880 is our first confirmed sighting of William the Bloody. He first comes to our attention from the accounts of his murders in London. It was only at this point that the Council was alerted to his presence. For the initial description of William, hazy as it is, we must rely on an eyewitness account from the Pall Mall Gazette.

*"It was a queer thing" the one eyewitness to the murder told me. 'Mr. Ganning kept repeating, "But you are dead William. You're dead. Your funeral was last month. You cannot hurt me," to his assailant. The witness heard the assailant reply, "I am dead, you nit, but you'll find that won't stop me,' before he plunged the railroad stake he was brandishing into the head of Mr. Ganning. At this point, our witness leveled his revolver and attempted to shoot the assailant. Our witness has the reputation of an excellent marksman amongst veterans of 70<sup>th</sup> Foot, to which company he belonged for 10 years in India before resigning his commission. He himself believed he had struck the assailant in the heart or close to it. Yet despite this, the criminal left the scene of his crime, walking upright with only a slight blood trail behind him. Inexplicably, the trail ceased abruptly, and the dogs sent to track him were unable to do so after 30 paces or so. When questioned further about the appearance of the criminal, the witness replied that it was a dark night, moonless, and the street was only dimly lit by gaslight, so his impression was imprecise. To the best of his recollection, the assailant was of a slight figure, dressed in a dark, conservative suit of funereal appearance, possessed middle-length hair, a large head somewhat out of proportion to his body, and a long, angular face. Our witness further spotted two accomplices whom he believed were posted as lookouts. After the two murders were accomplished, they cheered riotously. Shockingly, he recognized one of the voices as feminine, undoubtedly belonging to a depraved and corrupted member of the fairer sex. (15)*

It was only at this point that the Council was alerted to the possibility of a dangerous, new vampire operating in London. As the Slayer, then of Russian origins, was busy operating in the

Ural Mountains, the Council dispatched a team of three trained Field Watchers to investigate the situation. The members of this team were Edmund Berke, Nigel Robertson and Jerome O'Connor.

Several nights later at the burial ground of Mr. Ganning, they were able to pick up William's trail when he proved careless, seemingly unaware he was being pursued. From this cemetery at London's outskirts, they were able to track him back to his "lair," which turned out to be a three story private residence in Berkeley Square.

At this moment, the three trackers realized that the vampire they were following was a heretofore undocumented member of Angelus' gang. Indeed, this was the first notice they had that Angelus' band was once again operating in London. At this point, the three Council men declined to continue acting without reinforcements, as they found themselves outnumbered both in strength and in number. When their reinforcements arrived hours later, not during the daylight as they had requested, but at night (16), they prepared an ambush to destroy the gang. In this goal, they failed utterly, but they did succeed in driving the vampires out of London, an action that won them some praise and later censure as Angelus' gang blazed a trail of torture, gore and murder across England.

One of the Field Watchers, Edmund Berke, left us his account of the affair.

*The six of us broke into the house in Berkeley Square early that evening, just at twilight. We found Angelus' crew holed up together, this time in luxury at a private three-story house. We later learned that the house's proper residents, the Westmarch's, a young couple, the man only recently graduated from Oxford and a member of the literary set there, had only left London the previous week to travel abroad for several months. The Westmarch's had not alerted their neighbors to their proposed absence and no one had yet noticed the irregularity of the vampires trespassing at their home. It was a question to our minds how the vampires had learned the house was empty so quickly.*

*The residence, a fine house in the Georgian style with large windows and late Regency furniture and pre-Raphaelite art displayed upon the walls, was slowly being ruined by the vampires' proclivities. At the very least, we were able to arrest that heedless destruction of exquisite property.*

*When we entered the house, we came immediately upon a corpse of a housemaid, drained of blood, lying on the floor of the salon, her throat and other, more private parts of her body viciously mauled with various bite marks. Upstairs, the vampires were but stirring for their "day" so we were able to surprise them. But they were quick and fought well together.*

*We were astonished to hear the one named William speak in an Oxford accent, although one laced with gutter profanity. His attire was disheveled due to his haste at dressing, but as reported in the Pall Mall story, he wore a black suit and waistcoat and a white shirt all of which appeared to belong to him, as they looked*

*as though they had been made to fit his slim figure. It may very well have been his funeral attire. So, too, the vampire seemed young. He was more than willing to fight, indeed he gloried in combat, but he did not yet possess martial skill anywhere near to equal Angelus, for which I thank God, as he held me once in his grip, yet I was able to escape.*

*By the grace of God, we did succeed in driving them ignominiously from the house without any of their possessions, which fact displeased Angelus exceedingly, to judge by the words he directed at his new accomplice William. And thence we drove them from London. Yet, we were unable to vanquish them, for which fact we received much censure from the Council the following day, despite our exhausted and depleted state, as Nigel Robertson perished during our ambush, a fact we will rue in the days ahead. May God have Mercy on his Soul.  
(17)*

Unfortunately, Berke, a typical Victorian male of his generation, seemed to care more for the property belonging to the Westmarch's than for providing a physical description of his prey, William the Bloody. In fact, we learn more from the "ill-observed" viewing by gaslight of our eyewitness than from our Watcher. Perhaps he simply had the house in his sights longer than he did William. Yet it is a shame that he did not furnish more detail, as the description of William the Bloody departs from this point onward as his 'myth of self' begins its genesis.

## **2. YORKSHIRE**

In London, we have two descriptions of William the Bloody dressing and speaking as befit a man of the upper classes. In Yorkshire, we have a report of a male vampire in Angelus' cohort named Spike dressing and speaking in quite a different manner. When and how did this transition occur?

In fact, little enough is known about William the Bloody's time in Yorkshire, but the story of his depredations from London to Yorkshire, as I have worked it out, is telling.

There are three reports of a male vampire operating alone or with members of Angelus' crew. In all cases, his activities move constantly north from London in March to Yorkshire in June. The physical descriptions are scanty but the behavior, when analyzed, indicates a character in transition in a constant trajectory. The following three descriptions were collected from newspaper accounts and police reports.

- 1) On April 1<sup>st</sup> in Gloucester, Gloucestershire: At the Men at Arms Pub a brawl broke out last night leading to loss of life. The assailants, two men, finely dressed, one speaking in an Irish accent, the other an educated English accent, provoked a fight. As the Irishman, the taller and stouter of the two, slunk down an alley, the other man, younger and shorter, with light brown hair continued to fight at great odds. The body of Mr. Kent Allard, seemingly on his way to the pub as per his nightly routine, was later found grievously murdered, his throat mauled. The Irish man is suspected of the murder (18)

2) On April 14<sup>th</sup> in Stratford upon Avon, Warwickshire: Two murders occurred last night in a house in Stratford upon Avon. Mrs. Cotton, 37 and her son, James, 12, were slain. Her daughter, Mary, 10 years old, disappeared and is believed kidnapped for nefarious purposes by the assailant. The woman's body was slashed and bitten. The son's neck was broken and there were curious marks on his neck as well. A mile from the scene, one Mrs. Edwards reported seeing a slight man in dark clothes dragging a girl south, cursing loudly at the girl in terrible language in a working class accent. She recognized neither of them. And, as she was alone at the time, she did not pursue the matter then but sat awake and shivering all the night. The next morning, after her milkman arrived at her house, he accompanied her with two small barking dogs in tow, to report on the matter promptly. As this was the first murder in a decade, the police immediately sent out a squadron of men to scour the neighborhood.(19)

3) May 13<sup>th</sup>, the village of Froggatt, Derbyshire: A stranger caused a near riot yesterday at the village pub. The stranger possessed an aggressive tongue, ill-kempt light brown hair, jutting cheekbones and a hungry look. Twisting his face until it was deformed, he bit one man who came at him deeply in the neck and drew blood that he appeared to drink. Only then did he flee the district on horseback before the police mustered a force to capture him. Those who witnessed the event think him insane. The man he bit later died from loss of blood.(20)

All of this fits the data describing the behavior of a new fledged vampire first learning the hunt. He goes out first in company with his sire or other members of his family, and then he is sent to hunt on his own. Here, William was sent out in relatively easy territory, where it was easy for him to succeed.

Our second confirmed viewing of William the Bloody in 1880 takes place in Yorkshire, when Angelus' gang was still in retreat from their forced exit from London. Here, hiding from mild pursuit across the heart of England and hard on their luck, they inhabited not a fine mansion in a beautiful square, but the clammy depths of a despoiled mineshaft. It is unclear how long they resided there, though time constraints suggest at most a period of three weeks. Insofar as it is known, this is consistent with Angelus' modus operandi. Daily travel while being pursued, and when the pressure eases off, he and his family live for a period of days or months in the best residence that will house them with impunity. In Yorkshire, this proved to be a mineshaft.

*Reports reached the Council by telegraph from Danny Blythe, our man in Edinburgh, that there was heightened vampire activity in Yorkshire. He traveled south to Newcastle to set a hunting party in motion for our arrival... It took us some days to figure out the identity of the vampires. It was not until we came across a scene of such sickening depredation and artful sadism that we knew it was a question of Angelus and Darla. They had fled north and not to the continent as we had hoped. Still, there were differences here from Angelus' normal style. He liked his villainous ways kept quiet, to leave him to wreak his havoc undisturbed*



*for as long as possible. Yet in this case, one of his party seemed intent on trumpeting their evil doings loudly as a provocation, to arouse the ire of the townsfolk against them. It was then that we understood there was a new member in Angelus' party, not a mere minion, as per his wont, but a male vampire set on challenging him, hoping perhaps, like a young lion, to vanquish his sire and gain ascendancy.*

*It was not until several days later that we caught sight of our new prey in a pub that Blythe led us to in a working class district of York. Physically, he was more slightly built than Angelus, with honey brown hair that fell forward into his face, slovenly and unkempt. His working man's gear was dirty and ripped. His speech was rough. Yet even so, his looks and presence radiated great energy, enough so that many eyes in the pub, both female and male were riveted on him. As he tossed off beers one after another, he attempted to seduce to his side a young woman, likely a prostitute, introducing himself as Spike. The man she came in with, who had treated her poorly, soon took great offense. By then we had the place surrounded with our men but before we intervened in a competition over a whore – we thought it not worth our lives – a fight began in the bar. We then rushed forward, but he still managed to escape by jumping through a window, knocking one guard posted outside ten feet into the air and rendering him unconscious and snapping the neck of another who came at him, laughing in glee. He dragged the woman with him through the glass. By then she was cut and bleeding and began to scream in fright. Yet he tossed her up on a horse and carried her before him on horseback, his hand across her mouth enforcing her silence.*

*He grew weary of her noise and her struggles, evidently, for some miles from town, we came across her discarded body on the road. Though it was clear enough he had wanted her originally for other work and she had looked willing to comply, her neck was snapped and he had fed right before or after he killed her. We tracked him further and discovered the proximate location where he and Angelus' gang were hiding in the mines. We made entry the next morning with a larger retinue of men. But as we had feared by then the four had fled the area, leaving behind much of their goods stolen from victims during their time in Yorkshire. I pray God they took ship from Newcastle or Whitley Bay to Calais. Let the French deal with them for a little while. We have been cursed by their presence long enough. (21)*

We can detect even in these brief descriptions that the year 1880 was pivotal for William the Bloody as he began to devolve into the persona of Spike. He traded in the dandified accomplishments and innate self-restraint of certain segments of Victorian "gentility" for the more immediate masculinity, intrinsic sexuality and rough and tumble power associated in his mind with men of the working class. He evidently felt freer or more comfortable unleashing his vampiric fighting strength and sexual competitiveness while miming the accents of the working class. Yet he held on to vestiges of his cultured persona as well which surfaced at odd moments. Many years later, Spike still spoke German with Oxford trained inflexions. (22)

To my mind this suggests that William was sired in 1880 and working class "Spike" was the first personality he cultivated. Spike, with his working class proclivities, was a way to empower himself to cross lines which belonged to the morality of his own class, but which (unconsciously, to his mind) did not concern the working class. I recognize this remains speculative on my part, although much of the evidence from the journals supports this hypothesis as well. I have not yet succeeded in proving this conclusively.

After 1880, there are scattered reports here and there of Spike's activities, but they are always brief with scanty descriptions. Indeed, William the Bloody appeared to be working towards a goal – greater and greater confidence and fighting ability – and it was not until he killed the Chinese Slayer, when this goal was attained, that once again we can note a marked change in his appearance and his proclivities.

### **3. 1900: SHAANXI PROVINCE, CHINA**

It has long been known among Watchers that there were several causes for the Boxer Rebellion. The conventional cause is political, that the West was forcing its hegemony on to China and that China rebelled, calling the foreigners devils not for religious reasons, as they protested, but for understandable political and economic ones. Another explanation is known only to the Watchers and those historians and mystics with access to the secret files of the "The Righteous and Harmonious Fists," known in the West as "the Boxers."

In the years 1897-1900, there was a documented exodus of vampires from Europe and the American continents to China for the purposes of fomenting an apocalypse.(23) Consider the fact that in those years the Slayer, Chen Ma, was herself Chinese, chosen in that place in the world that faced the greatest threat from the forces of darkness. So, too, was her successor, T'su Tan who survived only a few months, but long enough to vanquish the threat faced by her generation.

One first hand account of this threat is still extant written by a member of the secret society of the Righteous Fist named Ch'i-Hao Pang. He survived the European repercussions that started in late 1900 by securing himself for a time in a Buddhist monastery and becoming a Zen master.

*They say now we called the foreigners devils to oust them from this land, that we were wrong to kill them like the vermin and miscreants they are, that we are ignorant peasants who know nothing of the world. What do they know, these brave men who speak to us across the span of the world to force their barbarian laws upon us? These foreigners wear two faces to hide their evil nature from the world. I have seen these devils in the flesh, cavorting in the moonlight after a fresh kill, their mouths dripping with the red blood of my family and friends, their faces twisted and deformed, their eyes in the dark like unto that of the animals, glinting and alight with fire. I know these devils exist. The foreign rulers extort money from us only to hide their shame from the world. We have stopped their evil plans now at the cost of many lives. But one day, one hundred years hence, when they are stronger and more confident, they will make the sun cease to shine so that it is entirely night. Then they will bare these faces to the world. They will make all the world to die. This I know is true, I have seen it in a vision. (24)*

There were few Watchers on the scene during the Boxer Rebellion. As foreigners, they made obvious targets. Moreover, the Watchers' accounts are scanty due to the destruction wrought during the Rebellion and its aftermath, wholesale pillaging of property, fires set throughout Shaanxi province and the death of two Slayers. However, it is well known that Spike killed Chen Ma during the middle of the Boxer Rebellion in 1900.(25) Sir Nicholas Brisby has documented this for us in elegiac fashion, as his last service to his Slayer, Chen Ma. To his sorrow, he was not present with her at her last, fateful encounter, but he did witness one earlier skirmish. It is from him we learn of William the Bloody's appearance at that time.

Tuesday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, 1900:

*On Friday last, Chen Ma informed me that she had spotted a vampire surveying her. She had not seen him clearly, but sensed his presence throughout the night following her, observing her movements. And she herself was too preoccupied in retrieving the Hu Mosh amulet (26) needed for the ritual to bring about the apocalypse to track him then. She sensed him again the next night, watching as she fought and killed three other vampires who ambushed her in a dark alleyway. Surprisingly, he called out, "Well done, pet," before sauntering away. Chen Ma did not feel at full strength just then, after her fight, and with a deep wound on her arm, so she let the matter lie once again. Finally, tonight, Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, with me accompanying on her patrol, battle was joined between the two. From her brief account on previous nights, I had assumed that this was merely one of the many vampires here for the apocalypse. But now I wonder. His mindset seemed distinct, far too much of an individualist to be a member of the Nerovian line who are the main force here hoping to foment the apocalypse. Yet for a vampire to seek out and challenge a Slayer mano a mano for his own thrill is unheard of. How else to account for it though, I do not know? Perhaps he is a mercenary hired by the Nerovian line, who are intent on bringing this apocalypse? I must research further.*

*In fighting technique, I thought him a poor match for Chen Ma who is perhaps the supreme weapon's master among Slayers of all times. His punches, throws and other moves were often quite sloppy, coming wide off the mark and wild on several occasions, though he landed them well. It was clear he had never been trained to fight before being turned into a vampire; else his technique would be more sophisticated now. In fighting style, he is an opportunist with street fighting skills. He cannot wield either blade or stake with her artistry, force or precision. It relieves me much to know this. She'll dispose of this minor annoyance soon, I hope. His lack of fighting finesse provides her great opportunity.*

*In manner, he was provocative, speaking several times during the fight to unsettle her, lacing his words with sexual badinage. She stayed stony faced and did not reply for the most part. Although once or twice I, who know her well, could see he seared a nerve. And through his spying on her, he seems to have discovered her secret shame, the one thing that overbalances her mind when she has the entire*

*weight of the world resting on her shoulders right now. That is, her mother's casting her off and vilifying her character, since she will not conform to her mother's desire that she give up her "frivolous games" as her mother terms her calling to marry a man of similar high birth to her own. Chen Ma knows her own destiny is unique and profound, but tradition weighs much with her and she has not been able to escape the mental confines of her background entirely. I sense so much resignation from her lately. It worries me.*

*In looks, I found the vampire hideous. He fought the entire time in game face, with his feral eyes lit like those of a man-eating tiger or a rabid dog. He was dressed as a worker, not in clothes of the aristocracy or the moneyed classes as so many vampires effect. His hair was light brown and ill kempt. His frame is light, though he is still taller than Chen Ma. Except for his foolhardiness in pursuing the Slayer and in his perseverance in learning her secrets to unman her during the fight, both of which are noteworthy, he seems unremarkable.*

*He spoke in a dreadful North London cant. I could place it exactly myself only because we once had some servants who spoke thus.*

*He managed to escape this night only because she threw him across the alleyway and before she could move in for the kill, a horrible sound of people screaming and in pain arose. We thought it best to aid those still living and in distress rather than to take more time to finish off this one annoying vampire.*

*...Saturday May 14<sup>th</sup>: Last night my poor Chen Ma died. I found her body this morning heaped on the floor, two incisor marks deep in her neck. The wound was bloodless. He has done her to death and consumed her essence. My mind is overturned, I feel such shock and grief. I advised her so ill.*

*...Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>: We buried her today. I have not the words.*

*...Monday, May 16<sup>th</sup>: Who is chosen now I cannot bear to think. My poor daughter Chen Ma with all her nobility of soul is gone.*

*...Tuesday, May 17<sup>th</sup>: I failed her. I did not recognize the threat this vampire represented. It must have been he.*

*...Wednesday May 18<sup>th</sup>: Quite by chance, I have learned something of the vampire who hounded poor Chen Ma to her death. I spotted him last night accompanying two vampiresses, one of whom I recognized from a photo as the notorious Darla. The other one was a dark haired female with long tresses. I made to follow and heard them refer to him familiarly as Spike, laughing aloud that he had done in a Slayer. As I suspected, it was he. He openly fondled the breast of the dark haired vampiress as they strolled and whispered and laughed – turning her head to kiss her, holding her tight by the waist. She was greedy to*

*respond to his advances. And, in a mad parody of Victorian manners, he was over solicitous of everything she craved, a knight to his lady.*

*I must discover her name. I do remember reading of an Aurelian couple in company with Darla and Angelus 100 years ago, both sired I believe, by Angelus. Were they still together it would be unique among vampires, but not impossible. I note for instance that Angelus is nowhere in evidence near Darla. Let us pray God he is dead and dusted.*

*I followed the three of them until they entered their abode. They are staying all together in an unremarkable Chinese style house. Darla was dressed tonight in traditional Chinese garments, as though she had gone native, well as native as a vampiress can be.*

*Spike looked quite different when not in game face. Young and I daresay handsome were it not for his accent and the wreckage of his clothing. He had an eager look about his eyes and a newfound confidence that I knew came from killing Chen Ma. He radiated power from drinking her blood. How I loathe him. He deserves death if ever an unnatural creature on this earth does.*

*Astonishingly, I heard him address a young lad in Chinese, in which language he sounded utterly different than in English, far more cultivated. The voice unsettled me, taking me back to a distant memory of Oxford, although why I cannot say.(27) I wish I had used my stake on him, even had it meant my own death at the hands of the other two. I would have gone to my rest in peace, justice served for my girl.*

*...Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup>: I have laid an ambush with monks of the Shaolin monastery to exterminate the vampires. If only this accursed uprising by the I-Ho Chuan did not make my movements throughout Tientsin so much more difficult. Thank God, I have the ability to disguise myself as well as any actor and to speak perfect Chinese*

*...Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup>: It is done. That is, they are routed, not dusted or burned or beheaded or tortured as I wished. But at least this place is free of them.*

*...Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>: I learned today of the identity of the new Slayer. T'su Tan. She, too, is Chinese, this time from Peking. I will be her Watcher until the Council can send someone else. I do not think I can bear to watch another warrior of the people die so young and alone and unloved, with the accumulated evil of the world darkening her bright spirit until she succumbs. (28)*

What do we learn here about the history of William the Bloody? Spike still spoke in a dreadful North London accent, but in a non-combatant and non-aggressive situation, when speaking in foreign languages unknown to his companions; he did not feel compelled to project his persona in a lower class accent. He did continue to affect dressing in workmen's clothing, particularly for his fights. It is this constructed personality, which allowed him to attain one goal he sought; to

reach the peak of vampiric ambition, as he saw it, to become the Slayer of a Slayer. Moreover, it is in his first combat with a Slayer that we see him aware that her own grinding despair could be used as a weapon against her. Spike's enthusiasm for a fight at difficult odds remains constant and his fighting technique, though no doubt it had improved over the years, was still very far from master level.

At some point between 1880 and 1900, Spike's liaison with Drusilla was consummated. Drusilla's attentions required a different touch, so he acted a different role for her. To suit her, he played the lover in a vampiric parody of a knight from Tennyson treating with his queenly lover. This demonstrates a certain literary education. But this role also demanded the enactment of a virility from him that he seems most comfortable projecting as part of his "lower class" mythos.

Once Spike attained these two goals, he did not return to some core self, but cloaked himself more fully within the mantel of his constructed persona, suggesting that as a vampire he viewed his human self with distaste. This mantel served him well. Elsewhere I discuss some of William the Bloody's activities from 1900 through 1970, the next key year in the evolution of his personality. Through all his time, he lived well, and in 1977 he achieved his next "great" ambition, the death of the New York Slayer, Nikki Wood.

#### **4. 1977: NEW YORK CITY**

As I mention in the section on William the Bloody's musical tastes, in 1970, he and Drusilla surfaced in New York, specifically in the East Village, where there was a plethora of decaying housing occupied by squatters. This neighborhood provided two assets not to be overlooked, easy digs and easy victims. Beyond the fact that he inhabited this neighborhood, William the Bloody's personal habitat was never known in his East Village period, but there is a presumption that together he and Drusilla took over some squalid space. They did have a glut of minions at this time, so it is feasible they employed the minions in decorating their living quarters to please Drusilla's fickle tastes. I am reliably informed that Spike was far less particular about the places he inhabited. (29) In any case, he and Drusilla appeared in Paris some weeks after he slaughtered Nikki Wood. (30)

1977 was pivotal to the evolution of Spike's appearance because in it he changed two features that have since become his recognizable trademarks. The first was he acquired the Billy Idol look, with platinum blond hair. (31) The second was his trademark black attire, complete with black leather duster snatched from the back of Nikki Wood. In my chapter on "Known Information," I discuss the series of events that led to Nikki Wood's precipitate death. In particular, Mr. Bernard Crowley reports that having recently suffered the death of a boyfriend, Nikki felt quite upset, was not herself and was less amenable to his advice than usual. He has attested in his diary that he believed William the Bloody may have sensed this in his time tailing her on the subway and throughout the city before he came to her attention.

*He chose to attack her at a vulnerable point in her life. He must have realized it. Her sadness was quite evident. She wore it like a glove, out in the open for all to see. That's why I urged her not to fight him at this time, with his reputation for danger. The fact that she did not listen to me, when normally she was so judicious*

*in taking advice, proves to me she felt particularly depressed and overly reckless. Death may have beckoned to her that night as a solace. (32)*

Nikki's body was found in an empty subway car, stripped of the duster she always wore. Only weeks afterward Spike was observed in Paris by Bernard Crowley sporting this duster with his hair cut short and dyed peroxide blond. Since this is the "costume" Spike wore when he reached the pinnacle of his success, the one vampire known to history to have slain two formidable Slayers, (33), he has chosen to freeze his self-presentation at this moment, so those who see him can read his reputation plainly in his external garb. He has chosen to present to the world a narrative of self and he wears it upon his back for all to see. In this gesture is embodied much about the duality of William the Bloody/Spike. His external appearance is his calling card to the world, embodying the reputation he has built over the years. The presentation is so dramatic that it takes time to realize he wears it literally to mantle the inner self, the core personality that his life as a vampire aims to annihilate.

And therein we sense the disjunction between the two selves. He loves the self he has constructed for himself, and despises his human self, suggesting that a great deal of the grandiosity of his life as a vampire is an attempt to eradicate the poor self esteem and unrealized ambitions that belonged to his human self. This dichotomy, by the way, is unique to Spike. The personalities of Angelus, Darla and Drusilla each show far more continuity with their human selves than does William. But because he has not corrupted his own core personality, but instead built a new one from stolen cloth, this provides us some insight into the reason that Spike's humanity is more persistent at surfacing at odd moments than that of his family or of vampires in general.

## NOTES

(1) See Aubrey Gareth, *Diary of a Watcher*, Vol. 7, pps. 153-159, CoW, London 1932; Sir Nicholas Brisby, *A Watcher's Diary*. Unpublished, 1874-1902, Vol. 5, pps. 347-359; Emile de Mariposa, *The Family of Aurelius*, Volumes 1 Ch.3 "The Master-Ness" and Volume 6 "Darla and Angelus", Stoker Press, London: Council of Watchers internal monographs, 1902-1923, pps. 666-669; unpublished. John Wyndham, *A Watcher's Diary*, Unpublished, 1898-1914; Edwin Marsh, *A Compendium of Vampiric Lives*, p. 315, Stoker Press, London 1977.

(2) Marsh, *Vampiric Lives*, p. 315.

(3) Gareth, *Diary of a Watcher*, p. 156.

(4) It is well known among scholars that unattributed quotations from earlier works often appear in Marsh's work. One "explanation" for this breach of scholarly etiquette is that the man was killed by vampires before he had time to complete the final edition.

(5) As a young man, Childe was a first hand witness to the fact that Holz comforted his young daughter all night long at the death of her mother even after he discovered she was a vampire. And then, the next morning, he himself drove his young daughter out in the

sunlight to be dusted. From that point on, Childe tells us, Holz was a changed man, near driven mad by grief and lust for revenge. Bertrand Childe, *The Devils' Executioner, Sightings and Slayings*, University Press, Cambridge 1822, p. 13

(6) Holz, "Private Papers" in *Annals of the Society of Demon Hunters*, XVIIIth Century, Vol. 11, p. 115- 137, CoW.

(7) Dr. Fliesning succeeded in persuading the family despite the hefty financial incentive provided by a team of American lawyers from Los Angeles whose librarian wanted the papers to complete their collection of esoterica on Angelus.

(8) By permission, Dr. Fliesning is currently preparing a monograph of these papers for publication within the Council.

(9) In his journal, Holz mentions that after reading in the newspaper an account of these deaths, he offered his services to the local police only to be informed in return that these were revenge killings, made with a special double bladed stiletto, unique to the region.

(10) Childe seems to have been correct in his assessment of the artist whose name he never mentions, for he writes in a letter dated to February that he found the man murdered in his own garret, his throat mauled by vampire fangs, his corpse drained of blood.

(11) Bertrand Childe, *Letters to Holz*, Unpublished.

(12) A copy of this sketch has been appended at the end of this thesis.

(13) Smith-Cato's claim that the other case of death by "railroad spike" in 1850s Marseilles was William the Bloody's first appearance has long been discredited. See Smith-Cato, Bryce. *A Watcher's Diary*. Unpublished, 1849-1889, p. 433, and the rebuttal to this in Marsh, *Vampiric Lives*, p. 315. Marsh proves that it was a vampire named Harvey who was responsible for that gruesome death.

(14) See the London Times and the Pall Mall Gazette from March 15- May 2. Both feature an extraordinary run of articles on the vicious criminal classes in London inspired by the railroad spike murder.

(15) Pall Mall Gazette, p. 2, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 1880.

(16) Berke relates elsewhere that the Council had some trouble putting together an adequate fighting party to combat Angelus' gang. This information only came out later, and he used it to achieve his full reinstatement within the Council after several months of demotion and disgrace for his failure to destroy Angelus' band.

(17) Edmund Berke, *Accounts from the Field*, 1878-1881, CoW, London 1882, p. 117.



(18) Jerome O'Connor, *Vampire Case Files throughout Great Britain, 1875-1885*, CoW Publishing, London 1888, p. 147.

(19) *Vampire Case Files*, p. 153. In his notes, O'Connor notes that Mary's body was recovered a week later at some remove from Stratford-upon-Avon, raped and murdered.

(20) Police files, Village of Froggatt, May 1880.

(21) Edward Gates, *Watcher's Council Correspondence*, Unpublished, 1880-1881, p. 132.

(22) *The Letters of Louise Brooks*, p. 93.

(23) Hermione Questor, *Centarian and Millennial Apocalyptic Movements*, CoW Publishing, London 1955, CoW, p. 356.

(24) Ch'i-Hao Pang, *A Monograph from the Secret Order of the Righteous Fists*, trans. John Wyndham-Price, Unpublished, 1902, p. 13.

(25) Sir Nicholas Brisby, "The Death of Chen Ma," in *Slayer Death Reports*, CoW, London 1914, p. 211.

(26) Questor, *Centarian and Millennial Apocalyptic Movements*, p. 370. Questor provides a description of the Hu Mosh amulet, a bronze amulet in the shape of a scroll, which looks of little value from the outside. It can only be opened by a magical incantation, À Bráh Ke' Dab Ráh. Inside, the text is written in 3<sup>rd</sup> century Rà-shí script and describes the ritual to bring on the apocalypse.

(27) If my speculative date of 1880 for the turning of William the Bloody is correct which I discuss [above or below, whichever is correct], this would make Sir Nicholas and Spike near contemporaries. Sir Nicholas turned 48 in 1900. I estimate that Spike was in his mid to late 20s at the time of his death. It is quite possible they knew each other at Oxford.

(28) Sir Nicholas Brisby, *Personal Diary of Sir Nicholas Brisby*, 1900, CoW, p. 68.

(29) From a personal conversation with Mr. Rupert Giles, who is the Watcher in Sunnydale where Spike currently resides.

(30) Martha Landau, *Drusilla, the Dark Queen*, CoW Publishing, London 1983, p. 115.

(31) Actually there are several reputable scholars who insist that Billy Idol acquired the look from Spike. This does more sense when one considers the dates. Billy Idol was only born in 1955, in 1977 he was barely 22. It is quite possible that he may at some point, in England or later, have come across Wicked Wills and borrowed the look.

(32) Bernard Crowley, *A Watcher's Diary*, CoW, 1970-1981.

(33) Vampires discriminate between those who kill relatively recent and unknown Slayers, such as Drusilla's slaying of Kendra, thought of as an easy kill, and those who have done in Slayers who have reached the pinnacles of their careers and are universally feared by the demon underworld. See Landau, *Drusilla, the Dark Queen*, p. 143ff for more discussion of this theme.

## CHAPTER FIVE: Feeding Habits

### Introduction

In this chapter I attempt a general synthesis of what is known about the feeding habits of the entire vampire species, in order to shed light on the habits of my particular William the Bloody, William the Bloody. This William the Bloody matter lends itself particularly well to the ethology-based approach I have employed in this chapter. For maximum clarity I have, for this chapter alone, consequently used the style of analysis generally followed in that subdiscipline.

When speaking of vampires, most reputable sources tend to treat them as if they were predators, peculiarly ignoring demonic motivators. I argue that there is a difference between feeding for sustenance, and killing for pleasure (be it robbery, world dominance or the causing of general mayhem). On feeding for sustenance there is a relative wealth of material, as detailed in the final section of this chapter, "General Feeding Habits". I will attempt here to explore Feeding for Pleasure, a more speculative area.

### Feeding for sustenance

#### 1. General

I begin by dividing the material at the Council's disposal in to three categories:

##### *Actual Observations:*

The excellent *Database of confirmed sightings of elder vampires* ([www.CoW.org.uk](http://www.CoW.org.uk)), Watcher's diaries, Slayer diaries, FBI X-files; Accumulated Data on sub terrestrial Feeding Habits, species 3079 (Walsh & Goldstein)

##### *Speculative:*

B. Stoker's Dracula; accumulated works of Elrod, Hambly, Hamilton, Huff, Harris, Simmons, Sizemore, etc.

##### *Balderdash:*

*A Pointed Autobiography*, B. Lugosi (Hollywood Press 1939)

#### 2. William the Bloody-specific data

##### 1. Whilst traveling with the Darla/Angelus troupe

William the Bloody was sired circa 1880 (see chapters 2, 4, and 10), either by Angelus or Drusilla (accounts conflict); all eyewitness accounts and legends firmly place him in the Angelus/Darla troupe until c. 1900, when Angelus disappears completely from our

accounts. Darla apparently leaves the troupe circa that same time, and has been sighted in the company of the Master since.

During that period no specific claims can be made about his individual feeding habits; we simply cannot distinguish individual kills from troupe kills. Accounts are sketchy and unreliable at best; they indicate planning and forethought on the part of the leader (it is unclear whether Angelus or Darla is the true leader; vampires may be either matrilineal or patrilineal). Huge feeding binges are varied by long periods of no (reported) kills. There is evidence of torture and random kills, where many victims were not even halfway drained. Rumors of whole families stalked, tortured, turned or killed for feeding abound, but can unfortunately not be confirmed.

## 2. Whilst in company of Drusilla

William the Bloody was the amorous companion of the Vampire Drusilla (ca. 1850) from 1900 until the present day (1998, last sighting Rio de Janeiro). Most often the pair had great followings of minions, at other times they apparently operated as a duo; occasionally they lived even in an uneasy truce with human beings. William the Bloody's feeding habits appear less exuberant from all accounts during this period; there is less evidence of torture and random kills. Discipline and moderation (in Vampiric terms, that is) seem to be exercised; the goals, I speculate, were easy living and feeding, travel and variation and causing of mayhem and disturbance, instead of torture and terror.

## 3. Solo

From the fact that at no time until the present William the Bloody has existed alone, we may infer that he/it prefers company to solitude. We have no data on his feeding habits when alone. Our Rio de Janeiro contact unfortunately was killed on duty when gathering data for a continuation of this study.

(N.B. I have requested permission, not yet granted, to travel to Rio de Janeiro to observe and/or interview William the Bloody myself for my post-Dip. research. Recent material [A. Rice, Interview with the Vampire] has given cause to believe that an individual vampire may very well be inclined to give an interview.)

### **Feeding for pleasure: William the Bloody specific**

It has been stipulated that vampires, unlike ordinary predators, gain more from feeding than sustenance and a pleasurable full belly. It is said that feeding generates sexual pleasure in vampires, and in their victims as well. Unfortunately, there has been very little research done to confirm this hypothesis.

The conclusion drawn from chapter 'Preferred Victims', seems to confirm this hypothesis in the case of our William the Bloody. He feeds for pleasure, choosing specific victim types, and mingling his nutritional needs with psychological ones. The methods he uses seem to vary.

1. Feed on the spot
2. Feed and have sex on the spot
3. Lure to dwelling and presumably kill. No data on sexual congress; my assumption is that there would be.

### **Eyewitness reports**

There is actual eye-witness evidence for several feeding occasions.

While traveling with Angelus and Darla; there are no eye-witness accounts for that period. There are several reports from Scotland Yard on victims with damaged throats, but as we cannot even ascertain if they were killed by vampires, we will certainly never know by which ones.

#### 2.2.2

NYPD, 12-11-1983 R. Moscowicz:

*"Tanya, Debbie, Ruth and me were going to the disco, and then she went out right away with this punk guy, and I followed her because I was afraid to let her go out on her own, and this guy was, you know, having sex with her against the wall and biting her neck and it looked like she was really enjoying it. And I was embarrassed and I went in again, and we never saw her again! Do you think I could have saved her if I had been braver?"*

Sunnydale P.D. 17-10-1997; Bob D., 17:

*"Well, dude, Sheila and me and a few guys were going to the Bronze, and I had just stopped to pee – is that, like, illegal, man? – coz I meant to say blow my nose, like in a Kleenex, and Sheila and Jay and Zack were walking in front of me, when I saw this creepy dude walk up behind them, he was like wearing this cool leather coat, man, and had like eighties hair, and he yanked Zack by his neck and twisted it and just threw him aside, like Superman, and then he did the same with Jay, and then he went to talk to Sheila and she like just went with him, man. She must have been doped to the...I mean, she must have been a little sleepy, I guess.*

*And then I just went to the Bronze to hang, and I saw some other guys I hang with there, and we had a ball, and then my parents made me go to Parent-Teacher Night, like they were gonna hear anything they wanted, you know what I mean? And then I saw Sheila again, coz she'd been absent, I guess, for a coupla days, and her face was all weird and ugly, and I saw the man with the black coat, too, and his face was all ugly too.*

PCP? Is that what people on PCP look like? I don't think so, dude, they just go... Well, if you say so it must be right, dude, I mean, officer."

### 2.2.3

Clem: (spokesman from Demon Bar, willing to part with this sketchy information for two beers and hot wings) *"He went for the pretty human girls, you know. Who wouldn't? I prefer then less smooth-skinned, but vampires aren't regular demons, they are half-human and have weird tastes. I don't know him personally, but I've seen him around. Usually he just lets his minions bring him food. Yeah, of course I mean people."*

### General Feeding Habits

From a) and b) we can abstract the following general observations (for stages cf. Definition of Stages in Vampiric Development, N. Bonaparte, New Orleans, 1845)

Feeding habits as

Fledgling	0-2 years
Intermediary development	2-30 years
Master	30-500
High Master (speculative)	500-2000
Ascended (improbable)	(Ascension and/or mating with a Slayer)

**Table 1**

Status	Feeding (min)	Feeding (max)	Survival rate (victims)
Fledgling	2/3 per night	4 per night	50 %
Intermediate	1 per night	Idem	0
Master	1 per week	10 per night	10 %
High Master	1 per month	50 per night	No data
Ascended	None (speculative)	Unknown	No data

**Table 2**

Status	% of vampire population	Average survival (yrs.)
Fledgling	90	0.3
Intermediate	8	20
Master	1.9	100 (limited data)
High Master	0.1 (speculative)	No data
Ascended	Unknown	No data

### Notes to Table 1

We see that the average human being has a 50% chance of surviving an encounter with a fledgling vampire, no chance at all with the intermediate level vampire, and that the chances rise as the Vampire reaches Master status. That is due solely to the level of restraint the Master Vampire is able to assert on his feeding impulses; as they age, this restraint seems to grow. The Master Vampire may let his victims live; one could speculate that is either because he no longer fears discovery and extermination, or because he might want to drink smaller amounts from the same (succulent?) victim several nights successively, or for some other reason.

### Notes to Table 2

We see that survival rate for fledglings is very low; but those that make it through the first few years have a good chance of reaching 20-30 years. The sharp decline that is visible in the statistic at that point is plausibly explained by C. Lee et al (Hammer Press, London, 1979); after that amount of time the vampire has outlived his whole generation, and must adapt to the changing times or die. Many seem unable to make the transition.

We can tentatively conclude that those that reach Master status do so not only due to the extra powers and physical strength the Master vampire gains over the years, but are able to survive due to flexibility and adaptability, traits either present or not in the human host, as the demonic presence is identical in a strain of vampires. This supports my theory of symbiotic Vampirism as stated in my Exposition.

### **Physical details on feeding**

For a detailed account of gallons of blood consumed per minute and in toto, per vamp, ranged to age and weight and days of fasting, I refer to Goldstein and Walsh.

### **Physical Testing on blood from different donors:**

Again, Goldstein and Walsh have done extensive testing on many kinds of blood; any mammal blood will keep a vampire alive, apparently. Walsh' hypothesis and test project that Master powers will never grow in a vampire fed on animal blood alone has not run for a sufficient length of time to give definitive answers.

## CHAPTER SIX: Preferred Victims

William the Bloody's victim preference corresponds directly with previously mentioned aspects of his personality. That is, his attention-seeking behavior, his temper, and his well documented romantic nature. This trend results in victims that fall into two main categories: the random victim, who may be of any age, sex, or walk of life, and the attractive young female. Special consideration will also be given to his fascination, indeed, obsession(1) with the Slayer.

It should be noted that the majority of common vampires exhibit little to no victim preference. Vampires feed on the blood of human beings to survive, and will normally choose whomever is the most convenient and/or easiest kill in the vicinity. The more evolved Aurelius clan, however, have shown themselves to be more psychologically motivated.

Indeed, vampires of the Aurelius clan may be categorized in much the same way as academia has categorized human serial killers. Using that model, the vampiress Drusilla would be classified as a Visionary Motive Type. This type of killer is considered insane or psychotic. They often hear 'voices' which tell them to commit a crime, and may also see visions. (2)

The vampiress Darla, and to a greater extent the vampire Angelus, could be classified as Lust Killers. These are sexual killers who derive sexual pleasure from the kill. In addition, the amount of pleasure derived is directly proportional to the amount of torture they inflict on their victims. Indeed, the more heinous the torture, the more aroused they become. Unlike the Visionary Motive Type, however, this type is in touch with reality. (3)

Using these classic serial killer models, William the Bloody would fit best in the category of the Thrill-Oriented Type. This type kills for 'fun.' They are said to get a 'high' from killing. They may be quite sadistic, and kill for the excitement it provides. (4) This thrill-seeking behavior has been well documented in previous sections of this thesis. Certainly it is the rare vampire who actually seeks out the Slayer. Despite his individual preferences, William the Bloodys choice of victims was also influenced by his hunting companions. Hunting with a group or as a pair (with Drusilla or Angelus), he is more likely to defer to their preference. This could be due to a desire to please or placate (as with Drusilla) or, in the case of Angelus, submitting to the more dominant male of the group. (5)

Left to his own devices, William the Bloody often seems to seek out the most challenging situation available, and can allow his temper get away from him. He has attacked an entire bar full of men after several of them apparently insulted his paramour, Drusilla. "We made the mistake of calling his woman a looney tunes," recalled one survivor. "I was lucky to get out alive." (6)



Drusilla and her well-documented insanity has gotten William the Bloody in dangerous situations on more than one occasion. Indeed, in Prague, while defending his mistress, he single handedly fought off an angry mob in order to save her after she entered an orphanage and attempted to turn several children.(7)

When not fighting off angry mobs, William the Bloody prefers the company of physically attractive young females. In her memoir of their friendship, which lasted over a year, journalist Anita Law recounts her impressions of William the Bloody. "He was in every way a charmer. From his looks, to his voice, to his manners, he was every girl's dream. I was just the old lady next door, the one whom he would drink tea with, play cards with, or for whom he'd fix the occasional squeaky door. I saw many young women enter his home. This was no surprise. It never occurred to me until later that I never saw one of them leave."(8)

In the vampire Slayer, William the Bloody seems to have found his ultimate potential victim. That is, she is strong enough to be his equal or better in a fight, providing him with the thrill- seeking, danger-seeking behavior he craves. The fact that he has outmatched two Slayers has also been the most obvious source of his considerable reputation, giving him the attention, admiration, and respect of his clan and peer group. And, finally, the Slayer is always a young, athletic female, the type to whom he seems most sexually attracted.

William the Bloody killed his first Slayer, Chen Ma, in 1900 in China during the Boxer Rebellion.(9) While there are no documented witnesses to this occurrence, it can be deduced that this event resulted in increased confidence for the young vampire,(10) as well as greater esteem among his clan members. He and Drusilla separated from the rest of the group shortly thereafter.

In 1977, William the Bloody killed his second Slayer in New York City. He deliberately traveled to New York to seek her out. After observing her for several nights, he finally initiated deadly contact in an empty subway car.(11) It was after this event that William the Bloody's reputation as the "Slayer of Slayers" became well-known.(12)

William the Bloody's encounter with the current Slayer, Buffy Summers, was incidental to his quest to cure Drusilla, injured in Prague, by visiting the Hellmouth. Nevertheless, he fought the Slayer enthusiastically on several occasions, culminating in Ms. Summers' seeming defeat of William the Bloody by dropping a large church organ on him. He did, however, recover, and in fact teamed with the Slayer in order to defeat Angelus and Drusilla in their attempt to raise Acatla.(13)

This last development is curious; in fact, some would say, unheard of. Further attention to William the Bloody's relationship to the current Slayer is warranted.

## NOTES

- (1) Rupert Giles, *A Watcher's Diary*, Unpublished, 1962-1968
- (2) Grant Nixon, *Serial Killers: Motives and Victims*. University of Washington Press, Seattle 1990: 65.
- (3) Ibid. 68.
- (4) Ibid. 72.
- (5) Charles Greenberg and Lois Pearson, *Master Vampire: The Alpha Male's Role in the Vampire Clan*., Little Brown & Company, UK Ltd., London 1980: 27.
- (6) Brenda Newton, *Vampires, Werewolves and Witches, Oh My!: True Tales of Surviving the Supernatural*. Chronicle Books, San Francisco 1997: 139.
- (7) Harry Brockman, ed., *Famous Vampire Skirmishes* . Never Never Publishers, Maple Park 1982: 178.
- (8) Anita Law, *The Vampire Beside Me*. W.W. Norton & Company, New York 1982: 22.
- (9) Sir Nicholas Brisby, "The Death of Chen Ma," *Slayer Death Reports*, (1914): 57.
- (10) N. Bonaparte, *Definitions of Stages in Vampiric Development*. Private Collection, New Orleans 1845: 61.
- (11) Bernard Crowley, *A Watcher's Diary*, Unpublished, 1960-1977
- (12) Quentin Travers, et. al., *Who's Who in the World of Damned Creatures*. COW Publishing, London, 1988: 36.
- (13) Giles, *A Watcher's Diary*.

## **CHAPTER SEVEN: Sexual Idiosyncrasies - The Romantic Vampire**

The primary obstacle to be faced, when detailing the sexual idiosyncrasies of a vampire, is that knowledge of such intimacies must be deduced from circumstantial evidence. Those with firsthand experience tend to meet their demise at the hands of their seducer. For that reason, this section depends largely on generalization and speculation.

To understand where William the Bloody deviates from the norm, one must first examine the 'vampiric' norm. The antiquated notion that vampires are impotent is incorrect. With their masochistic and sadistic tendencies, vampires may - by human standards - be considered sexually deviant, but they are not impotent. Male vampires have erections. In fact, with the exception of the heart and lungs, vampires have fully-functioning circulatory and nervous systems.

Demonic forces animate a vampire's body. This preternatural energy circulates the blood, usurping the function of the heart and allowing erections. This same force augments the vampire's strength, vigor, and endurance. Such an advantageous physiology means that vampires not only function sexually, but are also gifted with the ability to maintain erections for astoundingly long periods of time, while requiring exceptionally short refractory periods. (1) However, these enviable traits are counterbalanced by horrific disadvantages.

Vampires may be considered in some respects the supernatural equivalent of a psychopath, and psychopaths exhibit antisocial behavior ranging from the promiscuous to the sadistic to the homicidal. Specific behaviors vary with the individual. However, the ubiquitous trait of all psychopaths and vampires is a lack of remorse. They feel no guilt. They have no conscience. (2)

Research into the brain has shown that the frontal lobe acts as a master control for civilized human behavior. Lesions, tumors, or head injuries to this area can cause a normally moral or even passive person to begin exhibiting antisocial, aggressive, or violent tendencies. PET scans (positronic emission tomography), used to map the brain, have revealed that known psychopaths have noticeably less neural activity in the frontal lobe than most 'normal' humans. This suggests the possibility that what prevents most people from acting on violent or homicidal impulses may not be present in the psychopathic brain. (3) Vivisection of vampires reveals strikingly similar results.

It can be theorized that the process of siring a vampire damages the frontal lobe of the human host, and - as in the case of psychopaths - intelligence is unaffected but the moral center is lost. Or perhaps the demonic force animating the body provides inadequate neural activity to the frontal lobe. A conclusive diagnosis cannot be given without further research, which is difficult to do given the nature of the subject. (4) However, tantalizing questions are raised by Angel/Angelus, whose souling appears to have repaired this damage or at least stimulated normal neural activity in the frontal lobe. Should Angel or another souled vampire - if one exists - become available to the Council, further study is

warranted. It may be possible to simulate the souling effect by electronic stimulation of some sort.

However, the reason for establishing the superficial correlation between vampires and psychopaths is to provide a working model with which to judge William the Bloody's case history.

Vampires and psychopaths do not care about the suffering they leave in their wake. In fact, they experience a thrill from it. Some psychopaths reach orgasm only by committing a violent act or by fantasizing about one. Ted Bundy admitted to climaxing at the moment of his victims' deaths. Unfortunately, even the horrific can become familiar. As old horrors become mundane, psychopaths need new thrills, greater violence, and more grotesque displays of carnage. Their violent rampages escalate. Their crimes always escalate. (5) Understanding this concept is vital when investigating William the Bloody's history if one hopes to divine his true nature.

A cursory glance through William the Bloody's history reveals the expected sorts of crimes. There are the impalings of 1880, the home invasion of 1881, the reign of terror in Baden-Baden in 1889. The list is extensive, appalling, and wholly expected of a vampire. What is surprising is the pattern which emerges when examining these crimes more closely.

Between the years 1880 and 1898, there are many crimes with dreadful sexual connotations. This sort of incident becomes more sporadic after 1898, and after 1900, it becomes so infrequent as to be the exception rather than the rule. (6) In fact, such offenses are so rare as to be considered anomalous.

This is significant because, as previously stated, crimes invariably escalate. That is not to say that William the Bloody's crimes in general have not escalated. Going strictly by headcount, the carnage exacted in the Krakow, Prague, and Liverpool massacres far exceed William the Bloody's body count of the late 19th century. And, if judged on an apocalyptic scale, William the Bloody's reassembling of The Judge is his most nefarious strategy to date. (7) It is just that transgressions of a sexual nature follow an inverse pattern to what one would expect. Instead of becoming more frequent, they become less so.

A possible explanation for this unlikely pattern of behavior lies in theories expressed in Charles Greenberg's and Lois Pearson's *Master Vampire: The Alpha Male's Role in the Vampire Clan*. Greenberg and Pearson spend a great deal of time establishing Angelus's dominant role in the Angelus/Darla/Drusilla/William the Bloody 'family'. Angelus was the alpha male whose personal modus operandi was the destruction of innocence. (8) Accounts of Drusilla's siring and the events surrounding it, including the rape and murder of her familial sisters and the Sisters of Mercy, illustrate Angelus's career long pattern of bloodlust killing, a pattern which escalated until the rape and murder of a gypsy, whose father cursed the monster with a soul.

What Greenberg and Pearson fail to address in their book is the beta male's role in relation to the alpha male. The beta male constantly challenges the alpha for dominance – 'challenge' being the operative word. It is a competitive relationship. If, as theorized, William the Bloody was sired some time between 1870 and 1880, it makes perfect sense that from until 1898 (the year Angelus was souled), (9) William the Bloody's exploits were fueled by a sense of competition with the alpha male, a competition played out on his grandsire's turf.

Angelus's modus operandi was defiling innocence and bloodlust killing. For William the Bloody to compete with Angelus, he had to compete in that arena. When Angelus was removed from the equation, there was a shift in William the Bloody's behavior, though, to some extent, he must have still been battling Angelus's ghost, as William had yet to earn the alpha male position.

It is significant that the most dramatic shift in William's behavior occurred in 1900. In that year he killed the Slayer, something Angelus had never accomplished. This singular event allowed William to end his competition with Angelus, or Angelus's memory, but perhaps twenty years spent in competition with his grandsire molded William the Bloody's vampiric identity in a surprising way.

William the Bloody is a competitor. He is consumed with facing challenges, overcoming obstacles, and throwing himself against impossible fates. This explains his obsession with Slayers. This also goes a long way toward explaining the New York Prostitute Slaying Competition. These are not bloodlust killings. These are competitive killings. While there are sexual elements to certain cases, they are incidental to the crime itself. His sex drive is not directly tied to his predatory nature. It is not an essential part of his modus operandi.

The most striking pattern in records, concerning William the Bloody, are the consistent references to his devotion to Drusilla. Sir Nicholas Brisby described a sighting of the Aurelian four in 1900 by saying,

*The monsters strode down an avenue, filled with terror, fire, and blood as the chaos of the rebellion reached frightening proportions. Angelus, dark, swarthy and menacing, walked ahead of his companions. He never paused to look at his scarlet-clad paramour, Darla. He stood apart - unfeeling, uncaring, and cold. Darla followed her childe, never allowing her attention to waver from her demon lover as the battered, but unbowed, William the Bloody walked beside her. To his left walked the vampiress, Drusilla, who stumbled over wreckage in the street. She nearly crashed to her knees, but before she hit the ground William caught her. With one hand, he gently caressed her cheek in a baleful pantomime of a chivalric lover. After checking her ankle, he continued his gallant charade by sweeping her into his arms, kissing her ravenously, and carrying her down the street. Angelus never looked back." (10)*

However, recent discoveries suggest that William's actions were not part of a 'gallant charade' or 'baleful pantomime'. As heretical as it may be to suggest it, William the Bloody's actions actually appear to be characteristic of him.

A recent documentary on the life of silent film star Louise Brooks made mention of a mysterious figure that she referred to as 'Wicked Wills'. Inspection of her private correspondence, which has been archived by Eastman House, revealed an intriguing letter, dated the Fall of 1978. Having hit rock bottom, after decades of having been sustained by liquor, pills, and rich lovers, Ms. Brooks was in a rather desperate period of her life. In the letter, she mentions running into a young man who bore an uncanny resemblance to the 'Wicked Wills' of her youth.

"He was the same," she wrote. "Despite the Harlow platinum hair, the torn t-shirt, and safety pins, he looked exactly like the delightfully wicked Wills. I'm sure you think the old lady has finally lost the last of her sanity. I sometimes wonder the same thing, but if I was superstitious or had an ounce of fantasy life left in me, I would think Wills had a portrait of Dorian Grey in his closet." (11) She goes on to describe several encounters in her youth with the aforementioned 'Wicked Wills'. Further investigation into these encounters suggests they were almost certainly with William the Bloody.

The American actress, Louise Brooks, was considered to be one of the great beauties of the 1920s and has been described as "willful, heartless, and immoral." She was also said to have "a strong sense of personal probity, was a loyal friend, and refused to succumb to what she called the 'pestiferous disease' of 'going Hollywood' ". Indeed, Ms. Brooks had the audacity to tell the head of an American movie studio to "go to hell" before moving to Europe, where she made the most famous film of her career, 'Pandora's Box'. (12)

'Pandora's Box' is considered a masterpiece of early German Cinema. It investigates themes of love, lust, betrayal, envy, and murder, and in it, Ms. Brooks played the beguiling hedonist Lulu, who killed six men before she was murdered by Jack the Ripper. In her private papers, when Ms. Brooks describes the film's 1929 premiere in Berlin, she mentions 'Wicked Wills'. "I asked him whether he liked the show. He laughed and called me by one of those nicknames, like 'pet' or 'love' or 'pigeon' that falls so easily from some men's lips. He told me he did like the show, but not the ending. I was far too interesting for him to want to see me die." (13)

In the final years of her life, Ms. Brooks became famous once again as a clear-eyed, dry-witted chronicler of the early days of Hollywood. No mention of 'Wills' appears in her famous autobiography, *Lulu in Hollywood*, but she did discuss him in a letter to the same friend to whom she mentioned the 1978 sighting of 'Wicked Wills'. "When I was young, I thought he resembled Valentino," she wrote.

*"They both had expressive eyes and quicksilver temperaments. One moment, Wills could be the sensitive swain, but the next, he could become forceful, implacable, and dangerous. Looking back with the eyes of a jaded old woman, I think Wills reminds me most of Bogart. Not the Bogart fans worship at film festivals, but the*

*man who suppressed his own character to project a tough-guy role. The Humphrey I knew in 1924 was a conventional, well-bred young man, and I suspect that, once upon a time, Wills was much the same. He may have spoken English in that dreadful North London dialect, but despite the odd lewd word, he spoke German with the grammar, diction, and accent of a graduate of Oxford."* (14)

Ms. Brooks also made mention of Wills' longtime companion, whom she described as "Mad. The girl spoke in riddles that made a sane woman want to slap her. But Wills catered to her every whim." (15)

Near the end of her life, Ms. Brooks elaborated on her 1978 encounter with Wills.

*"I ran into him on the train. It wasn't one of my better days. Things weren't going well for me then, and a woman with too many years behind her knows not to trust young punks on subways. He walked toward me and something about the fluidity of his gait reminded me of Wills. When I looked into his face, I was almost convinced he was Wills. I know it was impossible. Fifty years had passed, and he hadn't aged a day. He had to be some doppelganger or a trick of my eyes, but when he approached me, I shivered. Laugh at my expense, because I don't know whether I shook from fear or desire. Wills was a beautiful man. Yes, I called him beautiful. He had flawless skin, intelligent eyes, and bone structure any movie star would envy. He also had the most wonderful hands. . ."*

She went on to say that, after an ominous initial meeting, some whim convinced her to allow the young man to walk her to her apartment.

*"We stood in the hallway of the building that had become my home, and I saw how far I had fallen. I remembered the sybaritic days in Berlin. I remembered jazz and flappers. I remembered gin and champagne. I remembered being famous and adored, and I was all too aware of standing in a corridor filled with litter, grime, and ugliness. The young man smiled. Then he leaned in close. He kissed me, and his lips were soft and gentle, fierce and firm. It wasn't the kind of kiss a young man gives an old woman, and for one moment I was Lulu again. I was that wild, feral creature that men desired and could not control, and before he stepped back, he whispered into my ear, 'You're too interesting for me to want to see you die.' "* (16)

There is, as unlikely as it seems, a true, gallant streak in William the Bloody. There is an extraordinary account where the Slayer, Buffy Summers, used Drusilla as hostage, to convince William to release potential victims. The astounding part of the account is that he did release the victims in exchange for Drusilla's safe return. (17) Shockingly, this vampire valued his lover's safety over his own. To quote the Slayer's diary, "He's crazy for the psychobitch." (18)

Even more extraordinary is that after Drusilla betrayed him with Angelus, William apparently did not seek revenge against her. Instead, he forged an alliance with the Slayer and helped prevent an apocalypse, in order to guarantee that Drusilla be given amnesty. (18)

The sheer number of accounts, such as these, leads one to the almost inescapable conclusion that William the Bloody is capable of some sort of romantic attachment. His concern for his lover's welfare exceeds concern for his own. He will forego his own pleasure for her. In a human, this quality is admirable. In a vampire, it is shocking, idiosyncratic, and strange. It's earth-shattering, because vampires aren't supposed to be capable of romantic love, but this vampire is.

## NOTES

- (1) Walsh, Margaret. *Dissecting Demon Physiology*. Los Angeles: Swastika Press 1999.
- (2) Wackernagel, Luhan. *Theory and Phenomenology of Siring: Towards a Behavioural Analysis of Vampirism*. London 1974 (unpublished).
- (3) American Psychiatric Association. *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*. Third ed., revised Washington D.C. 1987.
- (4) Walsh, Margaret. *Dissecting Demon Physiology*. Los Angeles: Swastika Press 1999.
- (5) Walsh, Margaret. *Psychology of Night Creatures*. Los Angeles: Swastika Press 1997.
- (6) Everet, Thomas. *Demonology--A Class Below*. 2nd ed. Hidden Creek Publishing 1992.
- (7) Giles, Rupert. *A Watcher's Diary*. (unpublished) 1986-1998.
- (8) Greenburg, Charles and Pearson, Lois. *Master Vampire: The Alpha Male's Role in the Vampire Clan*. London: Little Brown & Company, UK Ltd. 1980.
- (9) Giles, Rupert. *A Watcher's Diary*. (unpublished) 1986-1998.
- (10) Brisby, Sir Nicholas. "The Death of Chen Ma." *Slayer Death Reports*. London: CoW Publishing 1914.
- (11) Brooks, Louise. *Letters*. Eastman House Archive.
- (12) Tynan, Kenneth. *Essay*. The New Yorker 1982.
- (13) Brooks, Louise. *Letters*. Eastman House Archive.
- (14) Ibid.



(15) Ibid.

(16) Ibid.

(17) Giles, Rupert. *A Watcher's Diary*. (unpublished) 1986-1998.

(18) Summers, Buffy. *A Slayer's Diary*. (unpublished) 1996-1998.

(19) Ibid.

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## CHAPTER EIGHT: Torture

Killing can be mundane. It does not take a vampire or a psychopath to kill. A husband kills his wife because she betrayed him with an extramarital affair. A mother kills the man who molested her child. A mugger wants money for drugs and stabs a man in the back. A heroin dealer is killed because of a drug deal gone bad. These are all murders. They are indefensible and wrong, but we understand them. We understand the whys and hows. They make some awful kind of sense to us. Oxford-trained psychologist and former FBI profiler, Special Agent Fox Mulder, describes such incidents as 'ponies'.

When asked to elaborate, Agent Mulder explained that 'ponies' are shorthand for violent crimes which are grounded in reality. They have ordinary, comprehensible motivations - greed, anger, revenge, etc. But psychopaths aren't 'ponies'. Agent Mulder classifies them as 'unicorns'. 'Unicorns' may resemble 'ponies', but they are, in fact, something quite different. Their motivations defy us. Ordinary people cannot comprehend hurting others as a way of deriving pleasure for themselves. What shocks and horrifies us are the very things psychopaths seek for entertainment. (1) This is why elements of torture are usually part of their *modus operandi*.

And vampires?

"Are an entirely different legend," explained Agent Mulder, who also heads the FBI's Paranormal Investigation Unit. "Actually, they are part of several legends, including the Babylonian Ekimu, the Chinese Kuang-Shi, Motetz Dam of the Hebrews, the Mormo of ancient Greece, and the more familiar Nosferatu of Transylvania. Some don't even subsist on blood. For example, the Bulgarian Ubour eats only manure. They are what their natures make them. They do what their natures make them do. This is what separates them from humans. Psychopaths exhibit aberrant behavior. It is aberrant for a human to lack empathy for others, to take pleasure in others' pain. Such is not the case with vampires. Death is what the vampire is. Causing it is not aberrant behavior for their species. If a lion mauls a zebra or a shark attacks and kills a man, we do not say they are evil. They are doing what they need to do in order to survive. It is their nature." (2)

Agent Mulder's views are unique and clearly developed without the Council's vast historical perspective. However, his point is well-taken. Psychopaths are deviant human beings; vampires are something else again. If we attempt to understand their behaviour simply by assessing it as "deviant" by entirely human standards, we will be gravely misled. The analogies to the human psychopath are seductive. Indeed, as I argued in the last chapter, vampires in general provide in many ways a supernatural analogy to a psychopath. However, if we are to understand vampiric behaviour we cannot stop at measuring vampire behaviour on a human scale. Rather, we must attempt to analyse it on its own merits, and so discover what constitutes 'normality' among vampires themselves.

There is no space, in a work of the present scope, for a comprehensive analysis of the vampiric tendency to torture their victims, and I have relied on previous scholarship on the general trend. It is generally accepted, however, that vampires, whatever their

possible motivational differences have like human psychopaths a predisposition to torture their victims., William the Bloody, on superficial examination, appears to share this behavioural trait.

However, when presenting specifics of William the Bloody's case for Agent Mulder's professional opinion, his partner, Special Agent Dana Scully, had an interesting observation. "Torture is, by definition, an act which causes pain or horror. It is unclear whether either of these things occurred." (3)

When asked how a spike, driven through the skull, could *\*not\** be about pain, Agent Scully, who is also a medical physician (with a specialty in forensic science), responded, "The brain has no nerve endings. This is why many brain surgeries are performed while only using local anesthesia. Despite our shock at the use of a spike, the pain involved would be no greater than an ordinary scalp laceration. In fact, it's a swift, efficient, and relatively painless method for causing death. Though indisputably lethal, it doesn't quite meet the definition of physical torture." (4)

There even appears to be some question as to the degree of mental torture involved in these cases. The London Times and the Pall Mall Gazette's published accounts of the murder of Mr. Brian Ganning indicate an unanticipated, lethal attack where the railroad spike was used as a weapon. No time or effort was wasted in torture. (5) In the case of Mrs. Winston, her actual murder was not witnessed, but some deductions can be made from the description of her body. (6)

Forensic medicine barely existed as a science in the 1880s. More often than not, the coroner's job was that of an elected official, who would testify for the court. It was unnecessary to have any medical training. Therefore, evidence which might be collected from the corpse was frequently missed, ignored, or misunderstood. Victorians simply did not know what they were looking at. While reading the transcripts of the inquest for Mrs. Winston's murder, Ms. Scully noted that, had the coroner understood forensic science, he would have concluded that the spike had been used on Mrs. Winston *after* she was dead.

Mr. Lipscomb had checked for rigor mortis (stiffness of the corpse). He had used this to estimate the time of death. However, there is no evidence that he ever checked for liver mortis or even knew what livor mortis was.

Livor mortis occurs when blood no longer circulates and therefore accumulates in parts of the body, due to gravity. Livor mortis - especially in Mr. Lipscomb's day - can be mistaken for bruising, which could lead an uninformed person to speculate a beating where none had occurred. Ms. Scully suspects that the 'bruising' on Mrs. Winston's back, which Mr. Lipscomb noted, was not bruising at all. It was nothing more than an indication that Mrs. Winston had been left on the steps of her mansion several hours before the night watchman had found her. Also, the lack of blood from Mrs. Winston's head wound indicates that the spike had been used post-mortem. (7)

More recent incidents with William the Bloody also indicate a possible lack of enthusiasm for inflicting much in the way of torture. Field Watcher Rupert Giles, gave a firsthand account when he found himself in the clutches of Angelus and William the Bloody. Angelus had spent several hours torturing Mr. Giles when William the Bloody arrived. At William the Bloody's suggestion, torture was halted and an alternative method of interrogation was sought. In fact, Mr. Giles made note of Angelus mocking William the Bloody for "not being into the pre-show", which Mr. Giles took as a euphemism for avoiding participation in torturing their victims before killing them. (8)

It is improbable, indeed even preposterous, to speculate that a vampire such as William the Bloody does not enjoy or perhaps avoids torturing his victims. Whatever his idiosyncrasies, William the Bloody is an infamous vampire. It is a given that he both inflicts and takes pleasure in pain and terror. It is, as Agent Mulder said, a vampire's nature. These are the simple, inevitable facts. What is surprising is that there is any evidence at all to provoke questioning or debating this subject. That alone is startling and unique. On the data I have been able to gather, however, he appears to differ from the vampiric norm in this respect.

## NOTES

(1) Mulder, Fox. Phone interview.

(2) Ibid.

(3) Scully, Dana. Phone interview.

(4) Ibid.

(5) "London Times" and the "Pall Mall Gazette". 15 March - 2 May 1880.

(6) Scully, Dana. Phone interview.

(7) Lipscomb, Charles. Testimony in the inquest into Bryan Ganning and Genevieve Winston's murder, found in the Metropolitan Police records.

(8) Giles, Rupert. *A Watcher's Diary*. (unpublished).

## CHAPTER NINE: Other Known Idiosyncrasies

### Introduction

As I mentioned in the introduction to Chapter 4, it is imperative for all organisms to adapt over time to different conditions, or disappear. William the Bloody has attained a particularly high level of adaptation, which combined with a unique *joie de vivre*, makes his case particularly interesting to the investigator.

The task of analyzing his behaviour is made more difficult by the diversity of his interests, the enormous range of his movements over one hundred and twenty years and particularly by the paucity of easily accessed information. One of our weaknesses as an organization has been our reluctance to acknowledge the individuality attained by some vampires. This strategy has been dictated by our first priority, the requirement to devote our major resources to protecting humanity from vampire predations. We may also have shied away from detailed studies of vampire psychology to avoid acknowledging that we may be killing sentient beings.

To obtain details of William the Bloody's interests, I have pored over the journals of Field Watchers and whatever journals were left by Slayers. In the course of developing material for other chapters, I kept voluminous notes as to the timelines of the wanderings of William the Bloody and Drusilla. Many hours were spent in the library correlating these notes with unsolved murders and other mayhem in the given locations. When possible, I made use of the excellent connections that the Council of Watchers has with many police organizations around the world. This allowed me access to police files otherwise off-limits to the public. This method fails where his interests and actions may have not been associated with activities that would have been brought to the attention of the police.

In this section, I will explore some of his other interests and the particularly idiosyncratic manner that he employed and continues to employ in pursuing these interests.

### Dinner and theater date

William the Bloody's long term consort Drusilla has always had a dramatic flair. When not employing these powers to dazzle and confuse her prey, she has shown a marked fondness for the theatre. In particular, she appears to enjoy the ceremonies attending show premieres, especially as expressed in the Victorian, Edwardian and Belle Epoque periods. Victorian London contained many opportunities 'to see and be seen'. Always interested in pleasing his consort, William arranged their attendance at many a premiere in the most glamorous of the world's cities. How he might have paid for these extravaganzas can be illustrated by one reasonably well-documented example.

Following the enormous success of Gilbert and Sullivan's 'Mikado', which opened on the fourteenth of March in 1885, the next operetta of this much acclaimed lyricist and composer 'Ruddigore' was scheduled to premiere on the twenty-second of January in

1887 (1). London society was eagerly awaiting the new offering. The newspapers were rife with rumors that the Prince of Wales and his entourage would also attend the performance. As the performance hour approached, the streets near the entrance to The Savoy Theatre were jammed with carriages and spectators waiting for a glimpse of the Prince. (2)

Because of the attention surrounding this performance, there was a plethora of reporters on hand. An ancillary benefit to us is an abundance of first hand reports on attendees and the particulars of their arrival, appearance and later departure. In the line of carriages waiting to discharge their passengers was a particularly handsomely equipped brougham bearing no livery, drawn by a gray Andalusian with plumed black feathers in its headpiece. The driver was noted as a man of great height, ferocious appearance and demeanor. (3) He discharged two passengers: a man of medium height wearing suitably fashionable evening wear and a dark haired young woman, whose gown was covered by a dark red velvet coat. The driver, after escorting the couple to the entrance, returned with the velvet coat.(4)

This elegantly attired couple were not recognized by the reporters or the spectators who turned their attention to the occupants of the next carriage.(5) Some knowledgeable spectators assumed the two must be foreigners.(6) After the performance, the theatergoers returned to their waiting carriages to a much diminished number of spectators and reporters. After the theatre was completely cleared, the cleaning staff commenced its activities. As box A13 was entered, much tumult erupted. Found still sitting in their chairs were two couples, elegantly attired but dead. All jewelry, watches and money had been removed from the bodies. The manner of their deaths was both puzzling and gruesome: their necks had been snapped and there were trademark (to us) bite marks on their throats.(7) The Metropolitan Police quietly brought in representatives of our organization to verify the cause of their deaths. Extensive interviews of bystanders and reporters were carried out by the police, who with the help of the Council, led to the tentative identification of William the Bloody and Drusilla as the perpetrators.

William and Drusilla did not immediately repeat this escapade in London. Reports of murders with similar modus operandi did filter in from Turin(8) and St. Petersburg(9) to mention but two diverse cities.(10) The London public quickly lost interest in these cases, especially after the notorious killings of prostitutes in 1888 by the dread 'Leather Apron', who in our time is better known as 'Jack the Ripper'.

### **A Sampling of His Tastes in Popular Music**

It is difficult to definitively encapsulate William's tastes in art, literature and music. This corresponds to the difficulties in separating fact from fiction in all aspects of his human and vampire life. Who was he? What were his class origins and educational background? How do we separate his predilections from those of Drusilla, Angelus and Darla? As we know the group operated as a foursome, however sporadically, until Angelus dropped out in the late 1800s. At that point Darla also disappears from view, presumably to join a Vampire task force dedicated to the resurrection of The Master.

William and Drusilla apparently made the United States their main base of operation starting in the 1930s.(11) By the celebrated Hippie era, they had started frequenting the many festivals that differentiated that period from the more staid 50s. The personal abandon of the participants, lack of major police presence and lax security procedures made these festivals ideal for vampire predation. As recounted in a 1994 commemorative article in an upstate New York newspaper, "Woodstock has become an instant adjective denoting youthful hedonism and 60's excess." .(12)

This famous festival was uniquely suitable for the adventurous and flexible vampire couple. It can easily be appreciated that Drusilla with her taste for empire waist dresses in filmy materials would blend very nicely. William with his well-documented ability to blend in in different circumstances and milieus would have been the perfect escort. Thirty years later, he was fond of retelling the unique repercussions of consuming the blood of intoxicated flower children.(13) Although only two people were reported to have died at Woodstock, there may indeed have been many more whose bodies were never recovered. More research will have to be conducted to trace his movements through the summer of rock festivals.

William, who appreciated the bad boy image of the Rolling Stones, was a likely participant in the infamous Altamont concert, which effectively closed the very brief peaceful season. Although responsibility for the death of a young black man was given to members of the Hell's Angels motorcycle gang, few people noticed in their midst the presence of a trim young blond man. Although we do not have completely incontrovertible evidence, the descriptions and some blurry photographs are quite convincing about his presence with the Angels.(14) In particular, several individuals stand out in the photographs as being similar in appearance to some of his known minions at the time.

In the 1970s William and Drusilla surfaced in New York City.(15) The East Village with thousands of young people squatting in abandoned tenement houses would have been a happy hunting ground for vampire groups. In 1973 the famous music club CBGB opened in the ground floor level of a Bowery flophouse, originally as a haven for country, blue grass and blues. The owner, Hilly Kristal, finding it difficult to find enough new talent to fill the club, turned to showcasing new rock bands. Two bands which appeared in 1974 would later become some of the most important and influential punk bands: Television and The Ramones.(16) Within a few years the 'street bands' as they originally called themselves were part of an international rock movement, enthusiastically picked up in the UK and extended with bands like the famous Sex Pistols.(17) It was in this period, the mid to late 1970s, that William the Bloody metamorphised into his trademark appearance. So congenial has this persona been for him that he has maintained this look for over twenty years.

In the next ten years, William and Drusilla spent considerable time in South American and Europe. They returned to New York City in 1990. By this time musical taste among black youth had turned to rap music. There is little to indicate that William has any

interest in rap music. But rap concerts with their history of violence and their 'bad boy' image attracted his attention. City College of New York was the setting for an ill fated benefit rock concert. (18) Tickets to this concert were oversold. In the rush to enter the gym, nine people were trampled underfoot and twenty-nine people were injured. By careful perusal of the press photographs and videotapes in police custody the presence of William at this concert can be discerned. (19) At other Madison Square Garden rap concerts William and Drusilla attracted quite a lot of attention since it is easy to see how they would stand out in the crowd.

### **Sports Interests**

I have only investigated a subset of William the Bloody's interests in sports. Two very different interests of his revolve around football(20) and dog racing(21). Some of the stadiums for both spectator sports have been roofed or have evening hours played under flood lights. Whereas the greyhound races are not known for mass violence, football crowds have indicated a distinct taste for a 'spot of mayhem'. In particular, our British football fans have pioneered the bad crowd behavior known as soccer hooliganism.(22) Although the violence at British matches is largely under control, in its heyday an evening's amusement could have been combined with an easy meal.

William is known to be an avid fan of Manchester United.(23) Recently a kindly colleague brought some unpublished photographs to my attention that show a man strongly resembling William at a party in Manchester with David Beckham.(24)

Dog racing has become an international spectator sports with clubs and tracks in Sweden, Finland, Australia as well as in the United States. Southern California, which has been a primary residence for William the Bloody since 1997, has a multiplicity of such tracks.

### **Poker**

As a serendipitous outcome of other investigations I came across some information regarding William the Bloody's interests in poker.(25) William the Bloody and his minions spent many hours in the back room at Willie's Place, a well known bar in Sunnydale catering to the 'needs' of the demon and vampire communities. There they whiled away many hours playing poker with other demonic species. The strange item about this, is that the currency used in these games was kittens. Pure bred kittens such as Siamese apparently were particularly highly valued. Our informants, when asked what the demons did with these kittens, refused to answer but regarded the interviewer with great disdain.

### **Foreign and Demonic Languages**

Through various different sources, it has become apparent that William the Bloody has acquired proficiency in many human and demonic languages. He is known to speak French, German and Chinese quite fluently, which is no doubt an aid in his travels(26). In addition to the source mentioned in the previous section on poker, he has employed



demons as minions. It was apparently practical for him to learn some of the more prevalent demon languages rather than relying solely on having translators available. Rupert Giles has attested to his proficiency in Fyarl, a particularly difficult non Indo-European language.(27)

### **Drinking Tastes**

William the Bloody has had more than a century to sample the various alcoholic beverages popular around the world.(28) Do we know the full extent of his experiments and can we catalog his preferences? The answer to this question is negative. However, we have some evidence on what are his current preferences, possibly limited by his residence in southern California. We have firmly established evidence that his taste in whisky runs to Single Malts.(29) Not all single malts are imported into the US, but there is certainly a broad spectrum available in major markets. The most widely distributed single malt in the States is Glenfiddich and it is well documented that he drinks this brand. Of course, vampires are by nature opportunistic and his favorite brand might be Glenmorangie or Dalwhinnie or perhaps one from Islay like Laphroaig.

In the spirit of 'when in Rome, do as the Romans do', might explain his tastes in bourbon and sour mash whiskies. We have reliable anecdotal evidence that William the Bloody has imbibed Jack Daniels.

There is no alcoholic beverage more universally appreciated than beer. Americans make some of the best and some of the worst of that beverage. Beers such as Budweiser and its competitors have made their mark around the world. All that can be said of the taste of most vampires is that they have none! Fortunately for William, the last fifteen years have born witness to the successful birth of microbreweries in the United States. Throughout the country an array of small breweries has appeared to serve both the local areas and when they are lucky the entire country. California is no exception to this trend. Investigation into the brands carried by The Bronze(30) and by Willie's Place shows that all the mass beers produced by Coors, Anheiser-Busch, etc. as well as most of the big brand name European beers like Amstel, Heineken's, Guinness stout, Newcastle Brown Ale, etc. are available; some on draught and some in bottles. In addition a sampling of microbrews are available like the ubiquitous Sam Adams Boston Lager, Sierra Nevada Pale Ale, Anchor Steam as are several smaller labels. Witnesses have attested to seeing William the Bloody drink most of the mentioned brews depending partly on who was paying the tab. The most curious note is that his name in several variations has appeared on the mailing lists of several organizations devoted to microbrews and pure beer, both in the US and in the UK.

### **Smoking**

Another topic which encompasses an enormous range of taste is tobacco. All of sources agree that William the Bloody smokes cigarettes. When did he start? That is hard to ascertain. Before the 1880s cigarettes were hand rolled in small factories; mass produced cigarettes became available in the 1880s. One of the elite brands available in London at

the end of the nineteenth century was made by the tobacconist 'Benson and Hedges'. As with beer brands, William the Bloody may simply drink or smoke whatever is easiest to obtain in a given venue. Since vampires have the advantage over humans in being immune to the negative consequences of a nicotine addiction, nothing prevents them from smoking whatever cigarette tastes best or has the most impact on their nervous systems. They have the luxury of not caring about filtered or low nicotine or tar brands. Although no precise information is available, we can assume that when in France he would smoke Gauloise or Gitanes. In the US, our informants have stated that he most usually smokes unfiltered brands like Camels or other popular brands like Marlboros.(31)

### **In Brief**

There are many other activities that might have been of interest to William the Bloody and Drusilla. Unfortunately, I can only give a brief overview of some of the possibilities in this section. The intense pressure of deadlines for this thesis and the lack of funds to do the fieldwork that would have been required together prevent more detailed investigations. I hope that the funding might be obtained at a later date for me or other investigators to continue research in this area.

We know that William the Bloody and Drusilla have spent considerable time in Brazil.(32) As I have mentioned in preceding parts of this section, Drusilla has a well-documented interest in theatre, spectacles, masked balls, etc. It is not unreasonable to expect that she and William the Bloody attended the world renowned Mardi Gras festivals in Rio de Janeiro.

Other similar large scale festivals which would offer a convenient venue for frolic and mayhem occur all over the world. Particularly notable festivities are associated in Germany for Oktoberfest and in France for Bastille Day.

Painstaking research into these festivals may yield valuable additional information regarding the movements and activities of William the Bloody.

### **Conclusions**

The purpose of this section is to document various aspects of William the Bloody's unique persona and to substantiate the major thesis proposition that some vampires have developed unique personalities as a corollary of Zeitchmier's Law of Demonic Differentiation.(33) William the Bloody's activities as discussed above illustrate his complexity. How many of these interests are extensions of his human life is difficult to determine. In particular, it is a challenge to separate his unique interests from those of Drusilla. I have discussed his activities and interests in theatre, opera, music, sports, alcoholic beverages, and tobacco products. His pursuits are both the natural aspect of his personality and have helped further develop his persona. Further work is required to investigate all aspects of the phenomenon, unusual even in vampire circles, that is William the Bloody.

## NOTES

(1) It may be assumed that the advance notice of the storyline for 'Ruddigore' would have amused William and Drusilla. After all, bad barons, evil curses, ghosts emerging from the family portraits, etc. - what could be a more entertaining theatrical interlude for a pair of vampires? Since then Ruddigore has become a cult operetta with some vampire groups. There is anecdotal evidence that some groups frequently attend performances of Ruddigore dressed in Victorian period costumes.

(2) The Times, 22 January 1887

(3) Unpublished interview with several bystanders. One George Martin from Finchley thought the driver was at least seven feet tall, with green skin and red eyes. Another Alan MacDonald from Kew Gardens corroborated this description.

(4) Edward Pierce, Fashion Editor of The Times 22 January 1887

(5) The eyewitness interviews were very specific that there was only one couple involved. The detailed descriptions match William and Drusilla not Angelus and Darla. Further investigation has indicated that Angelus and Darla were not in the UK at the time of this premiere performance of Ruddigore.

(6) Lady Alice Ashbury-Smythe as quoted in The Times, 22 January 1887

(7) From the police blotter of the Metropolitan Police, Scotland Yard. 23 January 1887

(8) Premieres of Puccini's 'Manon Lescaut' on 1 February 1893 and 'La Boheme' in 1 February 1896.

(9) Premieres of Puccini's 'Manon Lescaut' on 1 February 1893 and 'La Boheme' in 1 February 1896.

(10) Jonathan Hopkins in Punch magazine did refer to the Ruddigore murders as an macabre evening of dinner and the theatre, Feb 1887.

(11) Robert James, *A Watcher's Diary*, Unpublished, 1920-1956. William and Drusilla continued to appear in European venues, presumably travelling back and forth by special arrangements with crews in tramp steamers.

(12) Eliot Tiber in The Times Herald-Record. Middletown, NY, 1994

(13) Interview with fledgling vampire conducted at Willy's Place in 1996.

(14) Many thanks to the Maysles brothers for giving me access to their archives for the film 'Gimme Shelter'.

- (15) Information derived from interviews with denizens of the East Village.
- (16) Information obtained from the CBGB website <http://www.cbgb.com/history1.htm>
- (17) William the Bloody's interest in The Ramones has been well documented. See Rupert Giles, *A Watcher's Diary*, Unpublished, 1962-1998 and Buffy Summers, *A Slayer's Diary*, Unpublished, 1996-1998.
- (18) December 28, 1991. Sean 'Puffy' Combs was the promoter and Heavy D was the headline performer.
- (19) Access to these sources was arranged by Quentin Travers through his extensive contacts with the New York City Police Department.
- (20) Soccer to our American colleagues.
- (21) Rupert Giles, *A Watcher's Diary*, Unpublished, 1962-1998.
- (22) A German self-described soccer hooligan has recently said that he owes all his inspiration in this matter to the British. From a Special Report conducted by the BBC, 2 June 1998.
- (23) Buffy Summers, *A Slayer's Diary*. Unpublished, 1996-1998. Information corroborated by interviews with known associates of William the Bloody's.
- (24) Thanks to George Connors.
- (25) Rupert Giles, Interview with Several Demons conducted at Willie's Place, unpublished, 1996.
- (26) Quentin Travers, et. al., *Who's Who in the World of Damned Creatures*. COW Publishing, London, 1988.
- (27) Rupert Giles, *A Watcher's Diary*, Unpublished, 1962-1998.
- (28) We know that William, Drusilla, Darla and Angelus visited Mongolia after their brief sojourn in Shanghai during the Boxer Rebellion. Did he or they try koumiss, the fermented mare's milk beverage preferred by Mongolians?
- (29) Scotch whisky, as Americans refer to it.
- (30) A Sunnydale bar/club catering to both high school and college students, best known as a venue for new and upcoming rock musicians.
- (31) Rupert Giles, *A Watcher's Diary*, Unpublished, 1962-1998.

(32) Ibid.

(33) J.S. Zeitchmier, *Aspects of the Demonic Psyche*. Unterhimmel Verlag, Berlin, 1893.

## CHAPTER TEN: Biography Before Death (speculative)

Having established that William the Bloody was most likely sired in the late Victorian period, it is natural to wonder precisely what sort of man William was before he became a vampire. Theories on this subject abound, and range from the quite obviously far-fetched notion that he was the Prince Consort's secret illegitimate son (1) to the much more rational idea that he was one of the many middle-class men who simply disappeared, and were reported missing but never found. (2) Judging from what we know of William the Bloody's personality, however, it is possible to work backward and guess at what kind of man he was before being turned. (I am basing this retrojection of his character on the assumption that vampires retain some portion of their human personality after being turned. For argument in support of this assumption please see Chapter 3.)

It is likely that William the Bloody was one of those who vanished from view, but it is also possible that his death was recorded. The incidence of desecrated burial sites in and around London in the last quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, as reported in the newspapers of the day, was not uncommon (3), and one supposes that some or most of those incidents are new vampires rising from their graves. (4) Available records indicate that several of the dead men whose graves were disturbed match the physical description of William the Bloody.

One likely candidate is William Carnarvon (d. 1877), a Franciscan monk on the verge of taking final priestly vows. (5) Carnarvon was "attacked by wild dogs" in a Spitalfields alley. His obituary reports that he had gone there to render aid to a parishioner.

The idea of a priest--or almost-priest--becoming a vampire seems quite ludicrous on first glance. One imagines that someone who has taken Holy Orders ought by rights to repel vampires in the same way the crucifix does. This, of course, is far from the truth; priests are, after all, human, and as vulnerable to vampire attack as anyone else. On second glance, however, William the Bloody being a priest before his death might go some distance to explain the vampire's unusual ability to care for Drusilla and his remarkable devotion to her, something so rarely seen in vampires that it is practically aberrant behavior. (6)

Another possibility is "Black" Bill Wilkes, a cracksman of no small repute, who died in January, 1880. (7) Wilkes was known for his volatile temper and willingness to settle disputes with his fists (8), which seems to fit in well with William the Bloody's reputation for violence. Richard Nokes, a Division H constable from 1872-1884, writes to his father Edward, a retired policeman living in Yorkshire:

*"We had quite a day, Dad. Chased Black Bill Wilkes over half of Whitechapel, dodging in and out of alleys and brothels and what-all. The bleeding bugger started a donnybrook in the King's Hart, just at dinner. Left Charlie McGurk bleeding on the floor with his head stove in, and a black eye. And a split lip and a few loose teeth--and to hear Charlie tell it, half his ribs broke. And all over a half pickled egg that Bill said Charlie nicked off his plate! That Bill, he's a right*

*bastard when he's crossed. Took us three hours to run him to ground, and even then we nearly lost him. Jack Dawkins finally cornered him in the blind alley behind Lady Mary's, and it took the both of us to bring him in, he was that determined. Gave Jack a bloody lip, he did. Me, I got off lucky with only a kick to the shin." (9)*

Though either of the two men are equally likely candidates for William the Bloody's human self, I tend toward the theory that it was, if not Carnarvon himself, at least someone like him, someone who possessed a deep capacity for loving. Everyone, after all, has some darkness within them that, unleashed by the lack of remorse and conscience of the vampire, would manifest as some of William the Bloody's more vicious behavior. Only a person who loved deeply, however, might have a chance of having that quality remain in any degree after becoming a vampire.

## NOTES

(1) M. Holmes., "A Monograph on the Secret Loves of HRH Prince Albert." Privately published, 1903.

(2) The newspapers of the period are curiously silent on many of the disappearances as news items, but the agony columns are filled with requests for information on vanished loved ones and pleas for them to return. It is undoubtedly true that some of the disappearances were due to vampiric activity, but the majority were probably deliberately engineered by the men themselves as flights to avoid prosecution or love affairs gone bad, leaving behind distraught and grieving families. A cousin of my great-great-grandmother, William Walthrop, vanished from London in 1880 after a disastrous *affaire de coeur* with a Miss Cecily Addams, though he at least was kind enough to write to his cousin some years later from Italy to tell her why he had left.

(3) The Times, Daily Telegraph, and Pall Mall Gazette, among others.

(4) Many of the reported incidents describe the typical state of a grave after a vampire has dug itself out--a roughly circular opening about a third of the way from the head of the casket, with earth pushed up in mounds around it.

(5) Obituary, Times, 17 August, 1877. Article on desecration of grave, *ibid.*, 21 August, 1877.

(6) Though this aberrant behavior occurs in two vampires of the Aurelian line. Perhaps there is something about the Aurelians that differentiates them from other vampires. Certainly Angelus, Darla and the Master are quite different from vampires of other lines, though in a completely different way from William the Bloody and the James that Childe mentions in his letters.

(7) Though there is no obituary for him, the Times reports in the 10 January edition that his grave was desecrated on 8 January. The news article gives sketchy details of Wilkin's life.

(8) Arrest records of Division H (Whitechapel), Scotland Yard, 1876-79.

(9) Richard Nokes, Private correspondence, 18 June, 1877.



## CHAPTER ELEVEN: Summary of Strengths and Weaknesses

I have given these in tabular form, for quick reference by Watchers in the field. Notes follow below.

<b>CHARACTERISTIC</b>	<b>STRENGTH</b>	<b>WEAKNESS</b>
<b>"Love"</b>	This emotion, or its vampiric analog, grants him persistence in difficult situations, if his consort is threatened	Love also makes him prone to recklessness and lack of forethought
<b>Fighting Skills</b>	Enormous. Has killed two Slayers.	
<b>Longevity</b>	He has already lived longer than over 90% of his kind.	
<b>Forethought/Planning</b>		Rarely shows any sign of these abilities. Prone to impulsiveness.
<b>Long Range Goals</b>		None apparent (see "Forethought"). Low risk of apocalypse-induction, unless prompted by Drusilla.
<b>Advanced Vampire Skills</b>		No accounts of precognition, hypnotism, thrall, flight, or shape-shifting.
<b>Physical Appearance</b>	A creature of noted beauty. This characteristic makes him highly successful in luring prey.	

As I have shown, William the Bloody is a formidable adversary, but it should be noted that he has as many weaknesses as strengths. While I can certainly conceive of his surviving many more centuries, there are some key points one may wish to keep in mind if ever faced with this particular vampire (1). Our subject has left a long trail of bodies and mayhem behind him, sufficient to make at least a first approximation of his habits, and his most notable strengths and weaknesses.

As with all vampires, William the Bloody possesses supernatural strength. As this is nothing unique to vampires in general, we will disregard it as a particular strength at this time. However, he does have finely developed fighting skills, which combined with his strength create a formidable opponent (2).

According to several sources, including Mr. Giles (3), William the Bloody has combined street fighting with an unidentified branch of martial arts, a combination that has rendered

him nearly unbeatable in a physical confrontation against a being of similar strength. In fact, it has been suggested that even his (grand)sire would not be able to defeat him in a life-or-death battle (4). And, to reiterate, he has killed at least two Slayers as of this date, and has made several attempts on the life of Buffy Anne Summers, the current Slayer (3). Miss Summers' own case is special and will be disregarded for the purposes of this discussion of William the Bloody's fighting ability.

William the Bloody's physical appearance assists him in increasing his body count. According to many sources, this vampire is extremely attractive and very sexual (5). As many serial killers have discovered, it is much easier to lure prey with a strikingly handsome face. As one victim's diary recounted, "His skin was alabaster, and cheekbones as sharp as the rocks by the sea. He made my body sing with anticipation, and my lips longed to feel his own." (*source suppressed by request of the author's family*) Shortly after this was written, her body was found, drained and bloated, at the seaside.

This leads us to William the Bloody's final strength, which can also be viewed as a significant weakness: his apparent ability to love. While the concept of a soulless thing being capable of love could certainly be the subject of an entire series of volumes, I will attempt to discuss this aspect of his personality succinctly. William the Bloody has been coupled with the vampire Drusilla, his probable sire, since his turning. He has been known to defend her and even sacrifice himself for her well-being. Any threat to Drusilla's existence results in the demise of the threatening creature in a swift and painful fashion. As shown by Jansa (6), there is no impetus like love.

But just as his love gives him a decided edge against an opponent, so can it work to his detriment. William the Bloody tends to lack forethought and often charges into battle without planning. This is clearly demonstrated by the Massacre at Viewridge, MA, USA (6), where the vampire ran into a burning barn in pursuit of Miss Dearborn, the Slayer at that time. He emerged without his trophy, but with a debilitating burn to his entire body. William the Bloody puts his 'emotions' before his thoughts, and this characteristic will ultimately bring about his downfall.

There have been no documented attempts at unleashing apocalypse by this vampire. This demonstrates a profound lack of initiative and long-range goals, as the standard number of attempts at world destruction or world domination by one vampire is five over the course of a 150 year life-span (8). In fact, there is extensive proof that his only fascinations are with his consort, modern music, American fried foods, and a strange obsession with black, casual clothing (3, 4, and 9). There seems, therefore, to be little threat from this creature on a larger scale.

Finally, unlike many vampires of his tenure, William the Bloody has failed to achieve any upper level vampire skills. His assets lie solely in his appearance and fighting skills. His consort is proficient at precognition and hypnotism, but he has failed to acquire any advanced abilities of his own. For example, he cannot fly, nor shape-shift. A vampire of his age should at least be showing early signs of one of these talents. Field Watchers

can take heart, however, in the knowledge that when they are faced with William the Bloody, what they see is what they will get.

## NOTES

- (1) Herman, Frederick. "Worst Case Scenario - Surviving Creatures of the Night". Tallahassee: University Presses of Florida 1996.
- (2) Branter, Jan and Petersen, Peter. "Never Look a Vampire in the Mouth". New York: Penguin Publishing 1943.
- (3) Brockman, Harry ed. "Famous Vampire Skirmishes". Maple Park: Never Never Publishers 1982.
- (4) Giles, Rupert. "A Watcher's Diary". (unpublished) 1962-1998.
- (5) Summers, Buffy. "A Slayer's Diary". (unpublished) 1996-1998.
- (6) Jansa et al. "Illustrated History of New England Massacres". Philadelphia: Pendant Publishers 1977.
- (7) Piston, Joan and Harten, Randy. "Chance Encounters - A Book of Finding Love in All the Wrong Places". Maple Park: Never Never Publishers 1987.
- (8) Slandish, Michael. "Statistics of the Undead". Chicago: Stodgy Presses 1996.
- (9) Travers, Quentin et al. "Who's Who in the World of Damned Creatures". London: CoW Publishing 1988.

## CHAPTER TWELVE: Conclusions

The material contained herein materially advances our knowledge of William the Bloody, natural heir to the powerful and discrete Aurelian line. Over the years, this vampire, also known as Spike, has been little studied, although he has always had a flamboyant streak and has never made any attempt to live anonymously. Much of the information contained in the Watcher library on his life and nature has been misleading. And no attempt has ever been made to marshall the information collected into a model that might be predictive. It is an oversight that has already proven costly for several Slayers and various watchers in the field, not to mention a worldwide general populace. It is to be hoped that this thesis will remedy somewhat the misconceptions and error that has crept into and overtaken his record.

The Aurelians use within their ranks a family model of nurture. They choose candidates carefully. They train them to hunt. They appear to retain more of the originating personality than is the norm. Although dominance/submission is part of their model, so also is loyalty and cooperation. They are capable of setting and realizing long-term goals, which makes them very dangerous as apocalypse enthusiasts. In the massacres and Grand Guignol tableaux for which they are known they present deliberate displays of power, without regard to anonymity, and so make plain their contempt for the human world.

But William the Bloody is to some extent anomalous within this family. Darla and Angelus spent one hundred and fifty years together. Drusilla spent forty years with them, but William the Bloody spent only twenty. His interests and his appetites and his attitudes appear to differ from their norm. He seeks notoriety, but he lacks interest in power as such. He loves, or at least displays behaviour closely analogous to human love, and in temperament is basically romantic: he will protect his mate without regard for his own self-interest. He is capable of living within human society for years at a stretch without a ripple. He is not like the other Aurelians that have been so exhaustively studied. And the Aurelians themselves differ in important ways from the norm in vampires.

Accordingly, study of this 'family', and particularly of its youngest member William, must inevitably lead to a reexamination of what defines the species. There are three basic theories currently in circulation. The first is the predator model, in which the demon is viewed as a non-sentient infestation that propagates itself by magic rather than reproduction. The second is psychological, representing the vampire as a delusional state of the human host, empowering the powerless and then setting no limits on the ability of the vampire to act out basic rapist models. The third postulates that the host dies and a demon comes to inhabit the empty shell. None of these theories, however, seem to describe any of the Aurelians, which renders them useless as predictive models. Instead it seems clear that a vampire, given these examples, is the product of a symbiosis between the dead body, the memory and personality and emotional core of the human host, and the demon who animates the body, disabling the superego and using the ego and id drives as motivating factors.

It is illuminating to study William the Bloody's appearance and habitat with an eye to seeing how this new synthesis of existing theories plays out. The first step was to establish definitively when William was turned, and here it was possible to correct some earlier confusions between William and another vampire named James who travelled briefly with Angelus and Darla at a much earlier date. We can date William's turning around 1880 in London, where Angelus and Darla and Dru were known to be, rule out earlier murders with railroad spikes, and make some extrapolations from the existing witness accounts to suggest that it was more likely Drusilla rather than Angelus who sired him. Armed with this information, we can proceed to follow through the existing evidence the passage of the Infernal Four from London to Yorkshire in 1880, and also study the murder of the Slayer Chen Ma in 1900 during the Boxer Rebellion.

And this intensive study of the period in the first twenty years of his siring is very illuminating. Somewhere between London and Yorkshire in 1880 William the Bloody exchanges his original Oxford accent and clothing for a lower class persona. Spike, William the Bloody, is a costume he deliberately puts on. He builds a reputation for ferocity with his ironical railroad-stakings. And later he begins to build a unique reputation as a slayer of Slayers. He uses his education to play for Drusilla the perfect knight, but where sexuality is concerned, significantly, reverts to the lower-class persona. There is no indication that the core human personality has been corrupted, he has simply gone around it to play a part, perhaps because he has scant respect for the original model. Still, his humanity has not been burned away in the conversion to vampire. He has lost none of himself, he has simply put himself away. This has fascinating implications, and it may make him truly unique: we simply do not have sufficiently detailed accounts of the making of individual vampires to be sure.

A study of feeding habits now proves illuminating. It is usually not possible, of course, to be sure which of the Aurelians is responsible for any kill, because they so often travel together. Nevertheless there are significant differences in behaviors between the predations that occur in the first twenty years after William's siring, when he and Dru travel exclusively with Angelus and Darla, and those that occur later, when Spike and Dru are a couple. When they are four, there is considerable planning involved, and many of the scenarios are sadistic; there are long gaps between kills but there are often many killed in a single outing. This pattern changes once Spike and Dru are on their own. Often there are many minions, but sometimes they are alone, even in the midst of a sustaining human population. The goal seems to be living easy rather than living well. Survival depends on adaptability in this model rather than on power. And this is perhaps key to how William survived the fledgling period, against very long odds, and became a Master so early in the game.

Both his adaptability and his drive to power are in evidence in his preferred choice of victims. Using a serial killer model, Spike could be defined as a thrill killer. He often chooses attractive young women as victims, luring them by using his considerable charms. In the company of others, though, he often willingly lets them choose the prey. When he fixates on a Slayer, he is motivated by attraction to the young girl plus the prestige of the trophy plus the thrill factor of being evenly matched or even outmatched.

This is a powerful convergence of interests. There are some anomalies about his pursuit of the current Slayer, however, that would bear closer examination: notably, the enormity of his temporary alliance with her against Angelus in order to stop Angelus' apocalyptic scheme and earn amnesty for Dru. Although the logic of this deal is indisputable, it has implications for Spike's view of the Slayer as an appropriate victim.

This becomes clearer when we study William's sexuality more closely. The obvious comparison is between the vampire and the psychopath. The lack of conscience, the loss of moral center suggesting damage to the frontal lobe, result in a personality that continually escalates the damage it chooses to inflict. The documented damage that William inflicted in the first twenty years of his siring, however, becomes less frequent thereafter in a reverse of the usual pattern. During the period, then, when Spike played beta male to Angelus' alpha, he was compelled to compete with him on Angelus' territory. Once Angelus left the field, however, William was able to revert to making his own choices. He exhibited in some documented accounts a gallantry that appeared to be peculiarly his own: protecting Dru, even at the cost of his own safety, making deals with the Slayer on her behalf. He showed, remarkably, a human capacity for behaviour closely analogous to selfless love.

It is important to note that inflicting pain or horror cannot be counted as aberrant behavior in a vampire, as it can in a human, and in that way any comparison to a psychopath (an aberrant human) rather misses the point. A vampire is already dead, and pain and horror are part of the territory. Inasmuch as he is a vampire, it is William the Bloody's behavior that is aberrant. Because all evidence suggests that he prefers a clean kill, and has no interest in what Angelus, ridiculing his fastidious behavior, calls the pre-show. Even the infamous railroad spike murders prove out unexpectedly as an example of this: not only is a swift painless death provided, but in some instances the damage was done after death. The death of the Subway Slayer, whose neck was broken, is another example. It is the nature of the vampire to kill, but there is no real evidence, when we look at it closely, that this vampire takes pleasure in the killing.

And yet it is entirely clear that there are many pleasures in this world that do appeal to him. Although the other Aurelians are not known to intake anything but blood, Spike is fond of beer and liquor. He smokes. He plays poker, watches football, goes to dog races. He likes music and often goes to concerts. With Drusilla he goes to balls and to the theatre. He continues to be, by choice, part of the human world.

Because he is attractive, and can be charming, and has excellent manners when he cares to employ them, there has been a tendency to dismiss him as a serious threat. Because he has little impulse to apocalyptic schemes, he has been dismissed as a lightweight. Because he has little interest in developing and executing grand plans, he has never been considered a strategist. Because he has no special vampiric skills, he has been considered a lesser example of the Aurelian line. Because he exhibits a grand devotion to his consort Drusilla, he has been considered a mere curiosity.

And yet, consider. His charm has brought him easy kills for over a hundred years, and given this predator entree to many worlds that would normally be closed to him. He has studied the Slayers he came to fight as closely and as comprehensively as any General planning a decisive campaign. His love for, or his obsession with, Drusilla has given him purpose, and led to many extraordinary feats on her behalf, not least of which was his ability to get her singlehandedly across an ocean and half the world to the Hellmouth after the events last year in Prague. And he represents the future of the Aurelian line, no small destiny. He has already killed two Slayers to become the only living vampire with such a record. He has managed to make a bargain with a Slayer, showing amazing skill at bargaining and a frightening degree of flexibility in the field. He has managed many minions when it was expedient, and he has managed without any when mobility was more important. All this, and he is not yet even one hundred and twenty years old.

Sometimes the best indicator of great power is how lightly it is worn. It would be a great mistake to go on ignoring William the Bloody as a minor character at the fringes of our great fight against the Powers of Evil. His very unpredictability represents a threat. His degree of deviance from the vampiric norm even of his originating 'family' is a warning signal. The current Slayer has failed to dispose of him in a year's time despite a number of opportunities. More and better intelligence gathering on his origins, his nature, and his true intentions may prove decisive in containing the threat he poses.

Meanwhile, though, he is a prime example of the need to develop a better model of what animates, and drives, any vampire. The old models we have do not describe him, and cannot contain him. They clearly do not apply in any useful way to the Aurelian clan, and they are particularly inadequate in explaining the existence of the clan's youngest member, William the Bloody. A model that is not predictive cannot be allowed to stand, because in the field the lives of both Watchers and Slayers depend on them. The present Slayer is herself clearly at risk, with Angel(us), Spike and Dru all regularly in her neighbourhood. We already know William the Bloody to have a particular interest in the slaying of Slayers. It is our purpose and duty to provide the Slayer and her Watcher with intelligence about her foes that is materially helpful to her in her fight.

The Line of Aurelius with its peculiar combination of 'family ties', predilection for massacres, and interest in apocalyptic schemes, poses a very material danger to the world. Over the last few years, they have seemed to make the Sunnydale Hellmouth their source of operations, and although the current Slayer there has managed to finally kill the Master and foil five different Aurelian apocalyptic schemes in the two years she has been in residence, she has also made a number of very unorthodox alliances with both Angel(us) and William the Bloody in localized circumstances, and this suggests that either her intelligence in the field contradicts that of the Council, or that her non-procedural improvisations are reckless in the extreme. It therefore behooves the Council to make as soon as possible a careful study of the situation, and all the principals thereto, in order to assist the Slayer by providing useful information, or at the very least to better prepare the next Slayer when she is Called.





## APPENDIX A: Known Victims

*Note:* Modern place names are used for all locations.

If no relatives are listed as surviving the victims, relatives are either unknown or the victim had none.

19 Apr 1880. Timothy Harwood. Male. 37. London, England. Barrister.

The first known victim of William the Bloody, Harwood was found with a railroad spike through his cranium. (This method of killing being, of course, what gave William the Bloody his self-assumed moniker of 'Spike'.) Harwood may have been known William the Bloody in life; vampire's first kills, or first several kills, are often former acquaintances or family members of his living self. This hypothesis, however, has failed as a lead in discovering William the Bloody's identity in life. This kill left a wife and son.

19 Apr 1880. Gerard Whitebridge. Male. 32. London, England. Barrister.

A workmate of Mr. Harwood, and therefore possibly also known to William the Bloody's human self. Also killed with a railroad spike. This kill left a wife and two daughters.

19 Apr 1880. John Edson. Male. 28. London, England. Clerk.

Also killed with a railroad spike, which argues that William the Bloody considered him to be in some way associated with the first two. This kill left a wife.

24 July 1880. Edna Pritchard. Female. 63. London, England. Schoolmistress.

Also found with a railroad spike through her head, and therefore, possibly, associated with the previous killings. Research on these four killings, though they are obviously and tantalizingly connected in their method, has failed to yield further information on William the Bloody's life identity. Perhaps the connection is something else entirely, and the four were not known to him before his death. Unlike the other killings, this one did not go unnoticed. William the Bloody's actions began to draw attention to his clan. This kill left no relatives.

29 Aug 1880. Victoria Tidwell. Female. 5. London, England. Child.

This child wandered out of her house when her parents were occupied, hoping to return to the countryside from where they'd just gone on holiday. Her father ran after her, in time to see her ask William the Bloody to take her home (as she was lost), and then saw William the Bloody kill his daughter, as he ran towards the duo. This blatant kill would ultimately result in William the Bloody's clan fleeing London.

7 Mar 1881. Richard Baker. Male. 33. Liverpool, England. Coal supplier for local rail station.

Verification of William the Bloody's involvement in the Baker family deaths was obtained from a scribbled drawing (with a few words on it), left in a coal bin. Baker was foolish enough to approach a traveling stranger, who took him by the throat. This kill left behind a wife and one daughter.

7 Mar 1881. Josephine Baker. Female. 24. Liverpool, England. Seamstress.

Mrs. Baker was forced to invite William the Bloody into her home to save the life of her husband; this was a deal quickly broken by William the Bloody. Upon witnessing her husband's death, Mrs. Baker attempted to fight off her assailant with various implements around the house. (Specifics cannot be given as there was a clutter left by the fight, separate from dropped weapons.) This kill left behind one daughter.

7 Mar 1881. Ruth Baker. Female. 9. Liverpool, England. Pre-pubescent.

It would appear that Mrs. Baker gave her daughter a slate and some chalk (to keep her quiet with), and told her to hide in a coal chute. Ruth had seen the vampire forcing his way into her home, and her childish sketch, with a few symbols surrounding it (one of which was determined to be a stake or spike; a child living near a railroad would be familiar with either one), was enough for the Council to identify the killer. Although her hiding spot was discovered, the slate she left in the coal dust would give the Council its first record of William the Bloody's activity outside of London. This kill left no survivors.

4 Jan 1889. Marta Grunwald. Female. 48. Baden-Baden, Germany. Innkeeper.

A short reign of terror occurred in this vacation town when a quartet of vampires descended upon it. Reports of survivors indicated that the man who killed Grunwald was with an insane woman, and that both their faces were deformed. This was considered adequate proof to label it as a William the Bloody kill. It is unknown when the so-called 'Scourge of Europe' left the British Isles and made their way onto the continent (between Ruth Baker and this kill). This kill left behind a husband.

10 Sept 1889. Josef Hamm. Male. 41. Munich, Germany. Police officer.

William the Bloody engaged a police officer in combat, in an open street, and killed him without drinking from him. He was overheard daring the man to yell for fellow officers to come and assist him. The number of witnesses (mostly people leaving a nearby opera house) led to the flight of the 'Scourge' from Bavaria. This kill left behind a wife, three sons, and a daughter.

2 Feb 1889. Maria Pannella. Female. 23. Naples, Italy. Prostitute.

Pannella and a fellow sex worker, Nina Morandi, were seen leaving a tavern with figures later identified as William the Bloody and Angelus. Pannella was found dead in a refuse

wagon the next morning. Morandi would turn up a week later with signs of extreme and prolonged torture. Studies of the respective feeding habits suggests Pannella was killed by William the Bloody and Morandi by Angelus. In a side note, Pannella would later be identified as a carrier of both typhoid and tuberculosis. Unlike most vampiric kills, this one saved potentially hundreds or thousands of lives. This method of disease control is not recommended. This kill left behind no known relatives.

6 Feb 1889. Lucia Coscione. Female. 17. Naples, Italy. Student.

The death of this girl, a daughter of a local politician, began to put the 'Scourge' in danger once again, as local officials began to hunt for her murderer. Four days after the murder, William the Bloody would find the press (that the story was getting) irresistible and would seek out the spotlight. This kill left behind a father, mother, and two sisters.

10 Feb 1889. Marco Coscione. Male. 51. Naples, Italy. Politician.

After walking up to the man's house, William the Bloody said that he had been the one to kill the Coscione girl and asked if the man wanted to duel. Servants would later tell tales of a man who took a sword through the heart and stood back up, only to break the neck of their master. This led to the 'Scourge' being forced to leave a city yet again, thanks to the highly public actions of William the Bloody. This kill left behind a wife and two daughters.

9 Dec 1893. Gertrude Kirschenbaum. Female. 32. Salzburg, Austria. Waitress.

A Field Watcher saw William the Bloody lure off this waitress, at a restaurant he was dining at. William the Bloody's image was now known to the Council from composite engravings, and the first-hand encounter of this Mr. Terrance Firth would allow for even more accurate imagery to be made.

14 Dec 1893. Terrance Firth. Male. 56. Salzburg, Austria. Watcher.

Mr. Firth decided, according to his journal, that it would be beneficial to strike down this vampire before he had the chance to grow any stronger. That course of action, while honourable, proved foolhardy.

2 May 1896. Josipa Grizogono. Female. 25. Zagreb, Croatia. Singer.

This local starlet befriended William the Bloody, who apparently attended her shows on a regular basis. She did not realize he was waiting for her to turn in a bad performance even while enjoying the music; when she had one bad night, he was waiting backstage. A stagehand reported the murder to the police.

17 Jan 1898. Alexandru Stirbei. Male. 28. Brasov, Romania. Barkeep.

William the Bloody engaged Stirbei in open combat, encouraging him to call in friends. Bets were placed on whether the slight Englishman could possibly win against several burly locals, including one by William the Bloody himself. Not only did he collect his money after cracking their heads open, but word quickly spread, allowing for confirmation of this kill.

17 Jan 1898. Victor Nastase. Male. 26. Brasov, Romania. Laborer.

See above.

17 Jan 1898. Adrian Coposu. Male. 31. Brasov, Romania. Laborer.

See above.

22 July. 1900. Chen Ma. Female. 17. Beijing, China. Slayer.

Although there were no witnesses, it has been generally accepted as fact that this Slayer met her death from William the Bloody. This is also the first confirmed victim after what would later be known (among the Council) as Angelus' curse, and was therefore the start of a new dynamic among the 'Scourge'. This kill left behind a grandfather, mother, and younger male sibling.

24 July 1900. Chen Tzu. Male. 15. Beijing, China. Adolescent.

Dockworkers reported the appearance of a young man screaming for vengeance against the murderer of his sister. He was looking for a 'white-skinned devil', and it is doubtful the witnesses were aware of the accuracy of this comment. Mild burns were suffered by William the Bloody from his torch, but Tzu ultimately was skewered on a broken mast. This kill left behind a grandfather and mother.

25 Dec 1918. Henri Saurrat. Male. 71. Paris, France. Priest.

The gap between this confirmed victim and the previous one reflects the difficulty in accurately tracking William the Bloody's movements upon the creation of the new dynamic upon Angelus' departure. He was thought to attack smaller towns with more laborers, rather than the large cities (with their wealthy elite and lush surroundings) favored by Angelus and Darla. As such, there were fewer witnesses who either happened to stumble upon a killing, or who were educated enough to recognize William the Bloody for what he was, rather than local superstition.

This date is the infamous (among the Council) Christmas Day Massacre. The faithful, coming from a cathedral for evening mass, met with William the Bloody and his consort, who wantonly killed more than three dozen men and women, feeding from none. Due to tensions from the war, the officials were hesitant to allow the spread of tales of a pair of monsters feeding on good, faithful citizens, and most deaths were tied (in one way or another) to the war, (even if the explanations made little sense, people were willing to

accept them rather than consider additional horror added to that of men). Because of this cover-up, albeit a somewhat unskilled one, only the identity of the priest (watching his adherents leave) can be verified.

Speculation about this entry abounds. Popular theory holds that it was a way for William the Bloody to make his mark as a separate entity, not in Angelus' shadow, in the continent where he was held under the elder vampire's thumb.

14 Apr 1920. Abdel Higazi. Male. 18. Gaza, Egypt. Ferry worker.

A worker unfortunate enough to be on a ferry that held a fight between William the Bloody and the Slayer of the time, Laila Naeni. William the Bloody did not have the good fortune (as it were) he found in his encounter with Chen Ma, and was forced to dive overboard. This also serves as the first recorded proof that William the Bloody, unlike some of his contemporaries from 1880, knows how to swim.

3 Aug 1922. Eliza Kibaki. Female. 43. Kisumu, Kenya. Missionary.

Notable only for her fortunate choice of a cross upon William the Bloody's initial attack on her outpost, when she fumbled for a weapon. However, William the Bloody was infuriated by his failure and returned two nights later, on the date listed above, to kill her in her sleep. This kill left behind a husband and son.

12 Feb 1923. Okotie Igbaroola. Male. 14. Lagos, Nigeria. Dockworker.

A young dockworker who attempted to prevent William the Bloody and Drusilla from stowing away on a cargo ship to New York City. Descriptions of witnesses would confirm sights of a slight man with very pale skin, curly dark blonde hair, and a deformed face similar to the one of a black-haired woman, with similarly pale skin. This relatively rapid flight across central Africa by William the Bloody and Drusilla suggests that, while they did not require the level of creature comforts demanded by Angelus and Darla, they did prefer to be in areas of more traditional Western civilization.

30 Sept 1928. Lily Roberts. Female. 17. New York City, United States. Prostitute.

William the Bloody would later boast to other vampires that he won an impromptu tournament with other strong vampires in the street to win the (apparently beautiful) prostitute one of them had caught in an alley. His story matches a known vampire victim seen by a Field Watcher, and it is also assumed that his mention of Roberts being shared between himself and Drusilla over the course of a week, is true as well.

9 Dec 1928. Harriet Harper. 15. New York City, United States. Prostitute.

With the success of the first 'tournament', it became a bit of a competition among the vampires in the city to find beautiful prizes. William the Bloody typically won the competitions.

14 Mar 1929. Barbara Tyler. 22. New York City, United States. Prostitute.

Another 'prize'.

3 July 1929. Bridget Finch. 20. New York City, United States. Prostitute.

Another 'prize'. Rumors had spread throughout the city by this point, among the city's sex workers, and precautions made the tournaments too difficult for a group of vampires (with little patience) to manage. McDaniels was the last to be fought over in such a competition. (Not to say that prostitutes were no longer killed; they were simply targeted as any other normal victim, where the goal was to kill, not capture without harming.)

5 June 1934. Harvey Brown. 54. Shreveport, United States. Musician.

William the Bloody's presence is again spotty around this era, as he was thought to have spent nearly two decades in the semi-rural southern United States. (It has been theorized that he liked the music.) The prevalence of local superstition in many of the locations prevented solid confirmation of many of his kills; most of the ones in this time had to be made on the assumption that there were no vampires matching the description of him and Drusilla.

9 Oct 1939. Fiona Simms. 29. Biloxi, United States. Waitress.

A server at one of the jazz clubs William the Bloody was thought to frequent. Few of the kills at this time were investigated by the local authorities, due to racial prejudice prevalent during the era. This kill left behind four sons.

26 Sept 1948. Norma Franklin. 24. New Orleans, United States. Maid.

Little is known about this woman. The owner of the hotel would later give a description of the couple that had rented out the room, where her body was found.

5 Mar 1952. Lupe San Angelo. 12. Hidalgo, Mexico. Child.

One of many recorded deaths during William the Bloody and Drusilla's path through Mexico that took up a large part of the 1950s, but the only definitely identified victim.

11 Jan 1963. Jerry Carmichael. 60. Boston, United States. Police officer.

One can only guess how many victims lie in Mexico, and in the areas between the border and the vampire duo's later home in the Northeastern United States. Upon returning to this area, William the Bloody engaged in previously witnessed behavior, that of purposefully challenging local law enforcement (and now military personnel, in addition). In this era, however, he did not flee when greater attention was earned. Rather, he stayed and faced each foe as they came. It would later be recognized as training, in

preparation for his plans to kill his second Slayer. This kill left behind three sons and two daughters.

14 Jan 1963. Samuel Drake. 46. Boston, United States. Police officer.

See above. This kill left behind a wife and son.

14 Jan 1963. Charles O'Brien. 43. Boston, United States. Police officer.

See above.

6 Apr 1966. Abraham Smith. 21. Annapolis, United States. Soldier.

See above. This kill left behind a wife.

18 Sept 1967. Daniel Baker. 29. Atlantic City, United States. Police officer.

See above.

1 June 1969. Margaret Lee. 23. Philadelphia, United States. Nurse.

That William the Bloody sought to improve his skills does not mean that he stepped away from normal vampiric patterns of preying on the weak. It should be noted that the vast majority of kills during his time of training were of the weak and helpless; however, the 'training' kills were typically more visible and therefore, easier to verify specific identities for.

31 Jan 1974. James Black. 28. Baltimore, United States. Police Officer.

See above.

19 Nov 1978. Nikki Wood. Female. 24. New York City, United States. Slayer.

This kill was possibly William the Bloody's most difficult. Wood was at a much higher level of skill than Chen Ma, being older, more experienced, and more physically imposing. As with the death of Chen Ma, much has been left to speculation as to the particulars of the kill, but it is generally accepted that William the Bloody was the figure to end her life. This kill left behind a son.

This kill set William the Bloody apart in the underworld of the vampires. Six other living (or more accurately, 'existing') vampires could claim killing Slayers. However, the majority of these six had seen the kind of good fortune experienced by William the Bloody in his own first kill, and none had undertaken similar training missions in order to seek out other Slayers and defeat them. William the Bloody's name began to spread among his fellow vampires and, with this new reputation, he returned yet again to the land where he'd seen his birth and initial existence as a vampire.

21 May 1982. Ian Chestham. Male. 41. Dover, England. Petty criminal.

William the Bloody now took a short, unexpected turn and began preying on those humans living outside the law. While it can easily be explained by understanding his need to pit himself against the strongest and most dangerous, it did offer a blessed respite to innocent victims in the area.

28 Aug 1983. Harold Smythe. Male. 35. London, England. Petty criminal.

See above.

12 Dec 1983. Charles Sandbourne. Male. 36. London, England. Murderer, car thief.

See above.

19 Sept 1986. Nadine Walters. Female. 14. Folkestone, England. Adolescent.

By this point, Drusilla had grown tired of her consort's efforts at always seeking out strong, older victims in order to improve his skills. The next ten years marked a pattern of seeking out the youngest and weakest victims of his existence, in order to placate her and provide some some sort of thanks for nearly three decades of his 'training'.

27 Oct 1986. Jeanne Beaumarchais. Female. 15. Calais, France. Adolescent.

See above.

3 Mar 1989. Anne-Marie Montand. Female. 13. Maastricht, Belgium. Adolescent.

See above.

19 Nov 1993. Kerstin Schild. Female. 13. Frankfurt, Germany. Adolescent.

See above.

15 May 1996. Maruska Svetsky. Female. 12. Prague, Czech Republic. Child.

The murder of this child would ultimately result in Drusilla being severely injured. William the Bloody's actions during this time are discussed elsewhere in this study.



**APPENDIX B: Confirmed Images of William the Bloody**

The following images can be reasonably confirmed as images of William the Bloody. Most can be dated within ten years.



1. Sketch – 1880's – around the time of William the Bloody's siring. Whether this sketch is of William the Bloody before he was sired cannot be ascertained. It was found in the effects William the Bloody left behind him in his hasty exit from Sunnydale in 1997.



2. Photograph – printed newspaper photograph, time of the Boxer rebellion, China. Clipped from the newspaper and found between the pages of the Watcher's Diary of Sir Nicholas Brisby, Watcher to Chen-Ma.



3. Photograph – print, aged, Boxer Rebellion, found likewise in Sir Nicholas Brisby's Diary. Both of these photographs show William the Bloody with his constant companion Drusilla.

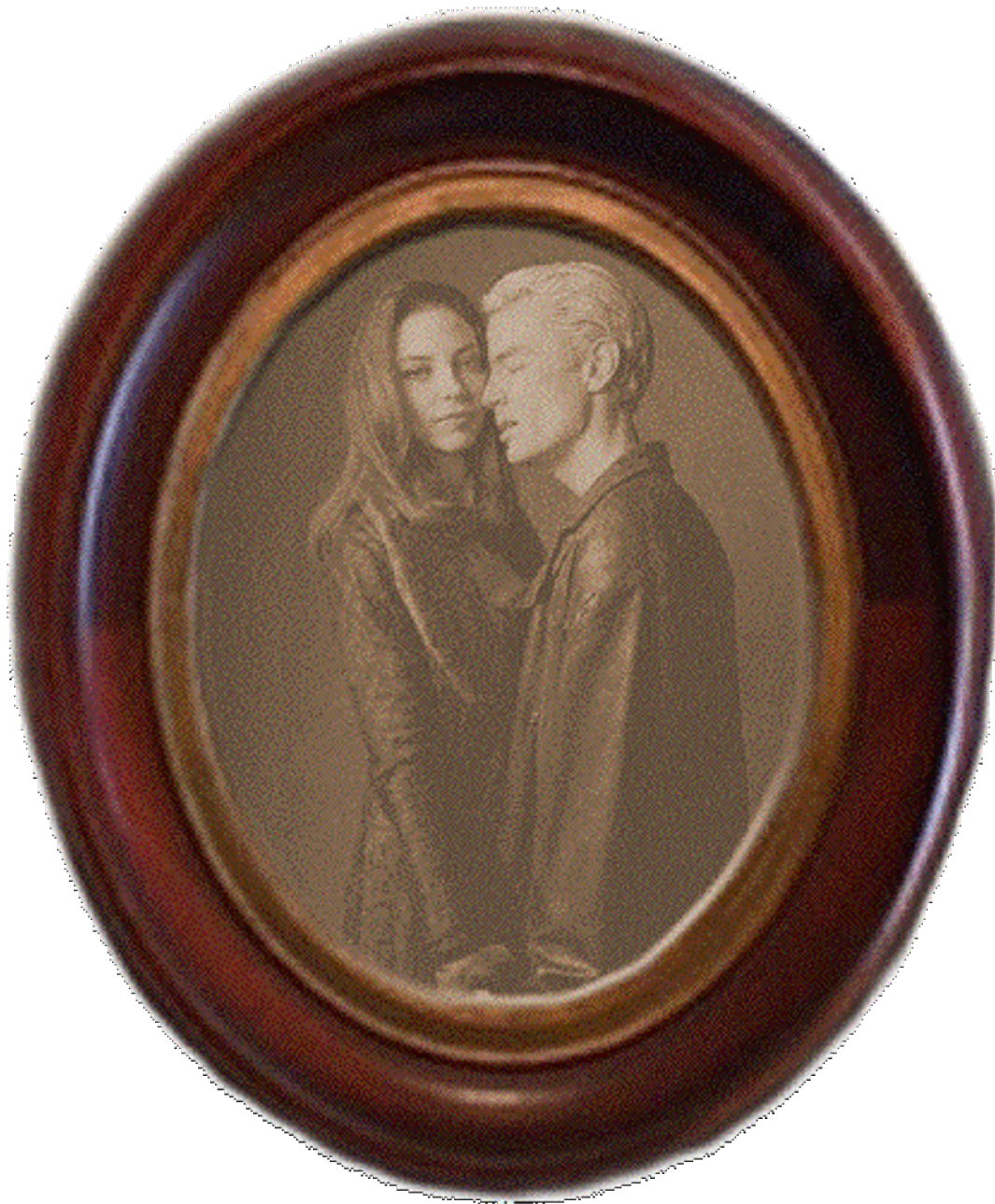


4. Studio Photograph – 1920's; well-preserved, found after his decease among the files of the Roaring Twenties' fashion photographer, Carlson Struthers (Chicago). If one mentally erases the moustache this is clearly an image of William the Bloody.





5. Photograph, retouched, "pop-art" style, 1950's – without the sunglasses, this also is clearly an image of William the Bloody. This image was part of the "American Dreaming" exhibition at Black Gallery, Manhattan, 1982.



6. Photograph, uncertain era – while clearly a photograph of William the Bloody and Drusilla, I cannot date it with any degree of accuracy. If this is the same leather jacket/duster he took as a trophy from Nikki Wood, it is post-1977, and has been artificially aged. I see no reason to believe, however, that William the Bloody has only owned one leather jacket, and this photograph could equally be from the 1930's-1950's, and naturally aged. This photograph, like the sketch (whose frame matches this photograph's), was found among William the Bloody's deserted effects in Sunnydale.





7. Pop-art, 1970's, Manhattan (printed) – I hypothesize with a fair degree of certainty that William the Bloody was the model for this punk pop-art figure, from a poster for Dead Wilson's, a short-lived Manhattan punk group (1978-1979).



8. 1990's, Sunnydale, photograph – this photograph, like #1 and #6, was found among William the Bloody's deserted effects in Sunnydale. Watcher Rupert Giles confirmed that it corresponded to William the Bloody's most recent appearance.



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Taylor, Hermione, *Colonial Vampires*. Boston: Burning Stake Press, 1944. The product of extensive archival research into primary sources for the period, this is the work that changed the face of scholarship in this area of study.

Tiber, Eliot. *The Times Herald-Record*. Middletown, NY, 1994.

Travers, Quentin et. al. *Who's Who in the World of Damned Creatures*. London: COW Publishing, 1988. This is the standard text in the field, or at least in Council headquarters. The treatment of Spike is lengthy and definitive, as are all the entries pertaining to the Order of Aurelius. It assigns little importance to Watchers' and Slayers' Diaries, however, preferring to rely on internal documents generated by the Council.

Tynan, Kenneth. Essay. *The New Yorker*, 1982. This study of the great actress Louise Brooks was helpful in establishing the broad general background of her life, in order to better establish dates and context for her letters.

Wackernagel, Luhan. *Theory and Phenomenology of Siring: Towards a Behavioural Analysis of Vampirism*, London 1974(unpub.) The theory behind this work, although still controversial, proved to be a much better match to the particulars of William the Bloody's case than the orthodox hypothesis which assumes character death, and it is to be hoped that later studies might build on the insights of this particular work.

Walsh, Margaret. *Dissecting Demon Physiology*. Los Angeles: Swastika Press, 1998. This is a fascinating preliminary study, setting out parameters for useful physiological experiments, which only came to my attention late in the thesis process. Rigorous studies of vampire physiology are rather thin on the ground, owing to the difficulty in garnering suitable subjects. Now if the author were only

in Sunnydale, she might be able to make a deal with the Slayer to provide suitable material for further study.

Walsh, Margaret. *Psychology of Night Creatures*. Los Angeles: Swastika Press, 1997. This standard reference work is problematic in explaining the career of William the Bloody taken as a whole: there are simply too many anomalies present, especially after he moves out of the Angelus family. Much more research, beyond the scope of the present thesis, needs to be done in order to develop more fruitful ways of modelling vampire behavior.

Walsh, Margaret and Goldstein, R.K. "Accumulated Data on Subterrestrial Feeding Habits, species 3079". *Journal of Occult Defense (classified)* 27.2 (1999): 14-38. This work was kindly made available pre-publication by the authors, eminent behaviorial psychologists interested in modification issues, and offers exciting fresh insights on this subject. Based largely on captive specimen, on which various tests were conducted, it seems to be modelling parameters for a much larger study still to come.

Zeitchmier, J.S. *Aspects of the Demonic Psyche*. Berlin, Unterhimmel Verlag, 1893. A compelling and seminal study of the vampire psyche, his Law of Demonic Differentiation has been extraordinarily helpful in sorting out the unique character of WtB.

### **Unpublished materials: Diaries, Journals and Interviews**

Anon. Interview with Fledgling vampire, Willy's Place, 1996.

Anonymous: The Sentry's Letter. c. 268. Rome: Vatican Archives. This important document describes the death of the Slayer Livia at the hands of an Aurelian.

Arrest records of Division H (Whitechapel), Scotland Yard, 1876-79.

Berke, Edmund. *Accounts from the Field*, 1878-1881, p. 117. One of the Field Watchers sent by the Council to discourage the Angelus family in 1880 from nesting in London, his account is provocative but at times maddeningly short on detail.

Brisby, Sir Nicholas. *Personal Diary*. CoW, 1900. This personal diary of the period in which Chen Ma was his charge freely reports the Watcher's grief and guilt about the death of his Slayer Chen Ma. Very few personal diaries of Watchers survive, for whatever reason, and the raw emotion contained in this diary suggests that Watchers may not be quite as objective about their charges as the official Watcher's Diaries tend to indicate.



- Brisby, Sir Nicholas. *A Watcher's Diary*. Unpublished, 1874-1902. His reports on his Slayer charge and on existing conditions are quite valuable and succinct, and add much to our knowledge of the hunting behavior of Angelus and his infernal family.
- Brooks, Louise. *Letters*. Unpublished, Eastman House Archive. This iconic actress knew William casually in her youth in Berlin, and met him again in old age, and her intelligent account of him at both ends of a long life is most intriguing.
- Carlisle, Garrett. *A Watcher's Diary*. Unpublished, 1961-1977. This account includes much data on the murder of the New York City Slayer by William the Bloody.
- Childe, Bertrand, correspondence with Holtz , 1772. This correspondence contains an eyewitness account of a rendezvous in Marseilles between Angelus and Darla and companions James and Elizabeth. The description of James and Elizabeth has been erroneously conflated by later scholars with that of Spike and Drusilla, which has in turn allowed error to creep into the dating of the siring of William the Bloody.
- Crowley, Bernard. *A Watcher's Diary*. Unpublished, 1970-1981. Mr White seems to have given his Slayer more latitude than is usual in making her own decisions in the field, but his account of events surrounding her death at the hands of William the Bloody is admirably thorough, especially in establishing the vampire's preferred methods of stalking his prey.
- Death Records, St. Peter's Parish, London England.
- Gareth, Aubrey. *Diary of a Watcher* Vol. 7, 1932. A notebook account by a Watcher with a notably long career, this volume consists mainly of extensive study notes on the more famous vampires of the day, detailing their appearance, habits, and fighting styles.
- Gates, Edward. *Watcher's Council Correspondence*. Unpublished, 1880-1881. This account of William in Angelus' party during the Yorkshire sojourn is strikingly detailed and provides much insight into the differences in style already emerging between Spike and Angelus.
- Giles, Rupert. *A Watcher's Diary*. Unpublished, 1986-1998. The author's observations are now considered by the Council to be unreliable, owing to the unorthodox methods he is known to have employed in the field. Nevertheless this researcher has found him to be surprisingly accurate on the elusive subject of this thesis, during the period of William the Bloody's year-long sojourn at the Sunnydale hellmouth. Although my security clearance was not high enough to gain unrestricted access to these records, Mr Travers was kind enough to let me examine photocopies of

- pages specifically mentioning William the Bloody, with the restriction that I could not make notes or quote Mr Giles directly.
- Giles, Rupert. Interview with Several Demons conducted at Willie's Place (unpub.) 1996.
- Holtz, \_Private Papers\_. *Annals of the Society of Demon Hunters*, XVIIIth Century, Vol. 11. Holtz' personal account of his long and tragic pursuit of Angelus and Darla, who retaliated by killing his whole family, is chilling.
- James, Robert. *A Watcher's Diary*. Unpublished, 1920-1956.
- Kundera, Janna. *Watcher's Journal*. Unpublished, 1997. This Watcher's notes are very comprehensive and detailed and have been invaluable in sorting out all the particulars of Drusilla and Spike's horrific sojourn in Prague in 1997 that, but for his rescue, might have ended in Drusilla's death at the hands of a mob. Unfortunately, only photocopies of specific pages were made available to this researcher, so it was not possible to examine the whole document in context.
- Lipscomb, Charles. Testimony in the inquest into the murder of Bryan Ganning and Genevieve Winston. Metropolitan Police records, London, 1880. This graphic account of the condition of the bodies, by the coroner assigned to the railroad spike murders, has proved useful, but is limited in its conclusions by the primitive state of forensic science in that day and age.
- Mulder, Fox. Phone Interview, 24 Nov 1996. Mr Mulder, a well-known profiler for the Federal Bureau of Investigations in the United States, was most helpful in providing a broad overview to the questions arising from this sort of enquiry.
- Nokes, Richard. Private correspondence, 18 June, 1877. Nokes was a constable in Division H during this period.
- O'Connor, Jerome. *Vampire Case Files throughout Great Britain, 1875-1885*. O'Connor was a Field Watcher for the Council in London during this period, assigned to tracking the most notorious vampires of the day, and in the pursuit of his duties he documented all the police cases that had the potential to impact on his own activities. Since not many official case files survive during this period, we are lucky to have these meticulous records to track the extent of vampiric predations in London during this period.
- Pang Ch'i-Hao. *A Monograph from the Secret Order of the Righteous Fists*. John Wyndham-Price, translator. Unpublished, 1902. An interesting first-hand account of the 1900 vampire apocalyptic movement in the Far East by an Oriental observer who lived through the period.
- Police Blotter, Scotland Yard Archives (1880). These records provide a simple and effective way of establishing dates when the Angelus clan was living in London.

- Police Blotter, Metropolitan Police, Scotland Yard. 23 January 1887. These entries are relevant to the affaire of the Ruddigore premiere.
- Police files, Village of Froggatt, Derbyshire. May 1880. Evidence of the route taken by the Angelus family between London and Yorkshire in 1880.
- Scully, Dana. Phone interview, 26 Nov 1996. A forensic investigator for a Special Unit branch of the F.B.I., Miss Scully was kind enough to examine for me transcripts of the inquest into the railroad spike murder of Genevieve Winston in 1880, and came to some provocative conclusions about motive and method that suggest intriguing new areas of inquiry.
- Smith, Darian. Drusilla: *Mad, Bad, Vampire or Misunderstood Seer?* Unpublished thesis, University of Sussex, 1990. This thesis takes an unorthodox look at the problem that is Drusilla, but some of its most interesting sources are not independently verifiable.
- Smith-Cato, Bryce. *A Watcher's Diary*. Unpublished, 1849-1889. Smith-Cato's sketchy diary documents the first known example of William the Bloody's distinctive handiwork: since there are no reliable sightings of the vampire himself until 1880, this record plays a pivotal role in establishing more nearly his original date of onset.
- Summers, Buffy. *A Slayer's Diary*. Unpublished, 1996-1998. Unorthodox and unrepentant, the lack of discipline so characteristic of this Slayer is faithfully reproduced in these pages. Although her intimate relationship with the vampire Angelus during this period beggars belief, it clearly coloured her viewpoint on William the Bloody, but the account of her various battles with him and the curious alliance between them when Angelus raised Acatla undeniably provokes many questions. This writer was not able to examine the original record, still presumably in the hands of the author, but photocopies of some entries were made available upon petition.
- Ulpius, Personal journal. c. 221. London: Watcher Council of Britain Private Archives. This priceless artifact is the earliest known account by a Watcher.
- Van Beuren, Claudia, "Examining the Scourge: Angelus Revealed." *Vampire Hunters*. 1971 (189-247.) This article contains many revealing details that are not found elsewhere.
- Weilert, NG et al. *Ancient Slayer Lore of Greece and Rome*, London COW Press, 1858. Full of extremely interesting background material, this is the standard text for this whole period.

Weir, Raquel. *Slayer diary*. Unpublished, 1908-10. This particular Slayer has unusually good writing skills and a flair for detail, and her diaries are quite engrossing. This is the first eyewitness account of William the Bloody in North America.

Whedon, Martin. *Jamestown from the Underside*. London: COW Press, 1998. This is a compelling account of the 1622 massacre near the Jamestown settlement now generally understood to be the handiwork of Darla and the Master.

Wyndham, Wesley. *A Watcher's Diary*. Unpublished, 1898-1914. This little-known account of a late-Victorian encounter is quite intriguing in its careful account of the charm this vampire exerted on his intended victims.